A Gentle Nature

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Gāoshŏu - Húdié Lán

Relationships: Yè Xiū/Everyone, Lan Yu | Team Blue Rain & Wei Chen, Yù

Wénzhōu/Wèi Chēn, Xing Xin | Team Happy & Ye Xiu, Past!Sū Mùqiū/Yè Xiū, More to be added later - Relationship, Fang Rui/Lin

Jingyan, Ye Xiu & Ye Qiu

Characters: Yè Xiū, Su Mucheng, Wei Chen (Quanzhi Gaoshou), Bao Rongxing,

Qiao Yifan, Luo Ji (Quanzhi Gaoshou), Táng Róu, Chén Guǒ, Huang

Shaotian, Yu Wenzhou, Fāng Ruì, Yè Qiū

Additional Tags: Always girl! Ye Xiu, Alternate Universe - Always a Different Sex, Uhh

basically everyone in Happy is a girl except An Wenyi, Girls Being Girls, Sisterly bond - Freeform, Much simping in the background actually, I wrote this to ease my anxiety, Blue Rain's simping

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7/?

A Gentle Nature

by <u>Invidia Envy</u>

Summary

Truth to be told, Ye Xiu could swear on one thing that she never had planned to make a team almost out of girls. It all had been a motion.

Su Mucheng was her little sister essentially, of course she would follow her sooner or later. And then... *Well*... the rest just happened.

It really was only a motion.

AU- Always Girls! Happy (Except An Wenyi because I still want him to be a man playing a girl character for reasons)

Notes

Tbh, I don't know why I wrote this. Maybe I just want to see them simping? Idk. I just like the idea.

Prologue

Truth to be told, Ye Xiu could swear on one thing that she never had planned to make a team almost out of girls. It all had been a motion.

Su Mucheng was her little sister essentially, of course she would follow her sooner or later. Tang Rou was a girl but she didn't lose out in aggression to men.

And then, there was Steamed Bun, honestly, if it wasn't because of her character being female and her slightly feminine voice, even Ye Xiu would doubt she was really a girl as the entire tenth server was. But meeting her in real life, Ye Xiu wiped away the thought of her being a cross-gender player like her, because that would do the two melons on her chest injustice.

And then, came along Qiao Yifan. She was a soft girl, very soft-spoken but determined. Ye Xiu didn't think too much about her.

And then along came Luo Ji, she was a bit weird at first, but she was earnest in wanting to learn about the mechanism of Glory so she has her worth. She seemed to be getting along well with Steamed Bun in-game and also one of many people who doubted Bun was a girl.

And then one of the only two lady captains of Pioneer Generation, Wei Chen. She was still the same dirty-mouthed woman who lacked sex appeal in-game (but made men's jaws drop in real life), but her passion was still burning brightly, there was no way she could let her be so she coaxed her in as well.

When Ye Xiu went out spying on Tyranny's side-guild to scout a Cleric and found a girl Cleric to her liking, she basically had accepted that she'd probably get an all-girls team, but Glory saw no gender. Ye Xiu approached *her* and it almost shocked her that a male's voice came out of the petite girl Cleric.

So, that was one man.

Although, Lord Grim still had to put up being the only male character in the team.

And then, Mo Fan finally agreed to come after *some* coercion. Ye Xiu truly thought that she was going to slap her the moment she met her face-to-face, and honestly Ye Xiu wouldn't blame her for that. It was Ye Xiu's own fault for pushing a woman's bottom line again and again, even Wei Chen looked down on her for that. But Mo Fan came around... It took time, but she did.

Ye Xiu wasn't trying to be an extreme feminist. She was an advocate of equality. Yes, woman was the fairer gender, but she never cared about anything else aside for treating them a bit gentler than men, she slaughtered Chu Yunxiu the same way she slaughtered the men in the alliance, she saw everyone equally. If they had the ability, they are in. If they didn't, then having a man was not a problem either.

Su Mucheng was surprised intially, but turned happier that her future team could possibly add the average number of female players within the Alliance by quite a lot. She could take them shopping, watching drama, do a girl's night, everything would be *amazing*.

Chen Guo, another woman responsible for Happy's creation, was also an important figure in Happy. So, the boss was a female, the players were majorly females.

So, there it was, an almost-all-girls team. Ye Xiu actually felt a bit pity for An Wenyi, suffice to say he stood in shock when he learned *all* of his teammates and a future teammate were girls.

They received a lot of attention because of their pretentiousness and the team's line-up in the Challenger League, but Ye Xiu was not one to put that on her mind.

Tiny Herb was the first one to interact with the formed team Happy and... and the young ones were quite happy. *Girls!* They only had Liu Fei after Qiao Yifan left the team, though, it can't be said their treatment to Qiao Yifan was any gentle at all. Qiao Yifan still had some confidence issues due to being mostly ignored in Tiny Herb.

The Challenger's League started and the team's list of players made it to everyone else in the Pro Scene and they did a double-take when they saw the captain's name.

Who the fuck is Ye Xiu?

And then.

Oh, wait, how many girls did this woman scout?

But everyone was mostly cool with it. More girls are better than nothing. It was about time the girls took more roles, Chu Yunxiu was the only current female God after Ye Xiu's retirement. She looked quite lonely in that imaginary throne of hers.

Windy Rain: Goodness gracious, Sister Ye! How many girls are you bringing over?! Can I be their playmates?

Lord Grim: Everyone is friend, I'll introduce you to them later.

Windy Rain: >_< I'm so happy you're coming back! It's a bit lonely knowing I won't meet you and Su Mucheng for the whole season -3- And you still use a male character! Hahaha.

Windy Rain: We're still the top goddesses with male characters! Glad I'm still not alone in this area.

Lord Grim: ^v^ I'm glad you like Lord Grim.

Windy Rain: Little Dai was ecstatic when she heard you're coming back. She's a fan of you. She was sooo disappointed when you abruptly retired in her debut season.

Firebird Messenger: Senior Chu! Don't expose me like that! >///<

Windy Rain: Haha. Where's Mucheng? @Dancing Rain

Dancing Rain: I have been summoned! What's up? :3

Windy Rain: We're talking about Sis Ye and her all-girls team.

Lord Grim: Not all girls, have pity on my Cleric.

Windy Rain: Since he plays a girl Cleric, he's already an honorary girl like Sis Wu. Right? (a) Carving Ghost

Carving Ghost: I'm glad I won't be the only honorary girl in this chatroom anymore. You better bring him here fast, Sis Ye.

Lord Grim: How could something like this be urged fast? You can't just ask the Alliance to immediately speed up the process.

Carving Ghost: I meant inviting them all here. This chatroom doesn't need the Alliance's permission, now, does it?

Lord Grim: Ooh. Still no, though.

Windy Rain: Eeeeh, whyyyy?

Lord Grim: They need to practice, you guys will just distract them.

Dancing Rain: Untrue!

Carving Ghost: Such accusation.

Windy Rain: Meanie!

Red Leaves: Gasp!

Firebird Messenger: I would never!

Lord Grim: -_-

Lord Grim: Where's Fang Rui?

Huang Shaotian had his suspicion when he saw the list of members team Happy had. Of course, there was no way he could just ignore the name that contained Wei and Chen in that structure, but he denied the possibility as much as he could. There was just no way the only two female captains of the pioneer generation banded hands together in a team... Didn't they hate each other? Or was it a love-hate relationship?

Either way, Huang Shaotian still had a more important matter to attend. Training Lu Hanwen, focusing on the official tournament, reviewing his enemies' playstyle and how to encounter

it. As a vice-captain, he was busy! No matter how many people think otherwise, he actually did some work around here!

And then he watched Happy's performance out of curiousity right before Challenger League's offline stage, he saw the sexy female Warlock with a familiar face.

Yup.

That was *her*.

Blue Rain was taken by storm that was created by its own very vice-captain the day it was confirmed that... yes, Swoksaar's original owner IS in Happy.

"AAAAAHHHH BOSS WEIIIIII!!!!" Huang Shaotian screamed to the ceilings as senior staff crowded around him, sobbing hysterically.

"Lady BOSS!!!"

"How could you abandon us like this?!"

"Life is cruel! Even Madam Wei ditched us, what am I going to do with my life now?!"

"Goddess, WHY?!"

"Of all team you can have a return to, why do you choose that bitch's team?!"

"Didn't you hate YE QIU?!?!"

"Ye Qiu!!! HOW COULD YOU?!?!"

Zheng Xuan and the rest of the team stared at the circle of despair in the middle of the common room, feeling weirded out.

"Little Lu, you should go to your room," Li Yuan said kindly to the young boy.

"But, why?" Lu Hanwen asked.

"You don't want to get infected by their weirdness, do you?" Li Yuan beamed.

Lu Hanwen pouted and obediently walked out.

"Yes, Captain Fang. Yesss, she deserted us," A senior member sobbed to his phone. The only one who was called 'Captain Fang' in the entire Blue Rain could only be Fang Shijing. The other side of the line sounded deadly silent as if mourning in silent despair. "Yes! In Ye Qiu's new team! Huh? How many girls in there? Let me see..."

Ugly sobbings broke out from the senior staff as he counted the "F" in gender section. "SEVEN! Goodness gracious, Blue Rain has been here for years and the only female had only been Boss Wei!"

Xu Jingxi sniffed heartfeltly, that was his reaction too when he saw how many girls Happy had. Fuck, even their boss is a woman!

"This is so stressful," Zheng Xuan rubbed the bridge of his nose, not liking the hysterics his seniors were making on the common room.

"Wait, has Madam Wei been married yet?" One senior member restrained his sadness and asked a serious question.

"FUCK! If she already had, she's so cruel! She didn't invite ME to her wedding?! She can't be that heartless, right?! I'm practically her little brother for the time she was still here!" Huang Shaotian raged. "Which man dared to marry my Boss Wei without sliding past my judgment first?!"

"Noooo, my goddess of shamelessness!"

"You guys..." Zheng Xuan sighed. "I know the first captain is a woman and all, but you guys are overdoing it," he said. He liked girls too and certainly hoped for more girls joining this team of sausage fest, but he was not this desperate.

"Shut up, Zheng Xuan, no one is asking you for your opinion! Why don't you go to the corner and daydream like you always do?"

Zheng Xuan rolled his eyes tiredly.

"Exactly how pretty the previous captain is? I mean, she's already over thirty this year, right? That's basically an auntie," Song Xiao commented.

Gasps resounded and Song Xiao was immediately subjected to countless glares.

"Madam Wei is always fair, mind you!"

"Shut up, Song Xiao! Shut up! Shut the fuck up!"

"Traitor! Traitor!"

"You heretic! Heretic!"

"Watch your mouth, Boss Wei IS my family!" Huang Shaotian joined his seniors in shutting Song Xiao's truthful words. Ironic, because years ago, he was the most frequent offender in calling Wei Chen 'old' to bicker with her.

"Now, I'm actually curious about her," Xu Jingxi tilted his head. "There's no picture around. I don't know how she looked."

"What do you mean? We keep her picture in the altar," one senior staff said blankly.

- "...We had an altar?" Xu Jingxi's jaw dropped.
- "The one in the ancestral hall."
- "What ancestral hall?!" Li Yuan said incredulously.
- "You mean that one hall where we kept unused things? The one with many fake and real flowers also incenses?" Zheng Xuan asked.
- "Yeah."
- "You mean THAT one? I never even get close there," Xu Jingxi frowned.
- "I saved a picture of her in my phone. A rare candid photo from Season 2's Winter," One staff member said as he pulled out his phone. "Here, look and bask on her grace." He said proudly.

Xu Jingxi shook his head in exasperation and took the phone, he flipped it to look at the screen and gasped, blushing furiously. "MADAM!" he soon joined his seniors in sobbing like an abandoned son, holding the phone close to his heart as if he was physically pained that he couldn't just merge with it.

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- "... The sanity level of Blue Rain is at a new low today," Li Yuan commented.
- "Let me see!" Song Xiao demanded. He didn't believe Xu Jingxi, what a dramatic ass he had. It's just a woman, it can't be that moving!

Song Xiao snatched the phone and gazed at the picture. "HOT DAMN!" he exclaimed. "We used to have her as a captain?! HOT. DAMN. She's as hot as Swoksaar!"

- "Correction, Swoksaar is as hot as her."
- "Hey, no matter how hot she was, it has been seven years since she was seen. She's over thirty!" Li Yuan tried to reason.
- "Who cares?! I dig older woman too!" Song Xiao tossed away his dignity and joined his seniors in simping for the first captain of Blue Rain.
- "We'll be able to see her again when she plays in the offline stage," one staff spoke up. "And then we'll see, *you*, heretic, will have to swallow your words."
- "Guys, seriously..." Li Yuan crossed his arms and shook his head.

The perk of being the only man in the team was that An Wenyi got a room all to himself, his own personal space was a nice thing away from home. The cons? A lot. He needed to wait for a long time to get his turn to use the shower, and girls took a long time in the bathroom,

especially if it was the time of the month. He needed to be careful to not accidentally walk in on an awkward situation.

An Wenyi also needed to be cautious with what he saw. Let's just say, there were too many careless ladies in Happy, it was not just once or twice that An Wenyi walked around the house minding his own business and then suddenly got assaulted with the sight of a woman just barely pulling down her shirt past her chest area. He had to address this issue after he gathered all of them and they all thankfully managed to come to the conclusion that no one would walk around while putting on a shirt again.

Worse was if one of them wanted to go out shopping and the rest agreed, then they would drag An Wenyi with them. The jealous glares of the passerbys were a bit chilling.

An Wenyi had to admit they were all beautiful and fair ladies who had their own charms. Other men would probably kill to be in An Wenyi's place, but truly An Wenyi couldn't see the novelty.

Another perk to living with them was; he got to be spoiled often. The girls loved doing some beauty care. The only one who seemed to not really fond of it was Wei Chen and Ye Xiu, but those two had no power against the rest so they got forced into it anyway.

An Wenyi still couldn't stop an amusing smirk forming on his lips when he recalled how adamant Wei-da jie refused to get a hair routine until Chen Guo, Tang Rou, and Steamed Bun teamed up on her. Now, like Ye Xiu, she just let it happen.

The girls loved giving An Wenyi some special treatment too. On some odd days, An Wenyi would find himself sitting with his hand on a table and his free hand looking through his phone as Luo Ji polished his trimmed nail.

Other days, he would be slumped on a desk sleepily as Captain Ye rubbed lotion and massaged his hands patiently.

Other times, Tang Rou would offer to give him a facial massage, sometimes she coerced him to it, her deft hands would massage his face until he fell asleep.

Sometimes Qiao Yifan liked to ask him to lay down and try the new facial mask product she got.

He would also frequently found himself sitting blankly watching to as Steamed Bun applied her hair product on his hair.

One time, Wei Chen even ordered An Wenyi to stay still as she shaved his legs' hair. An Wenyi spent the whole time confused but grateful and skeptical when it ended.

And the bathroom products. God, the bathroom products. It was awesome. An Wenyi never felt so taken care of and *fancy* in his whole life prior to living with them.

"So, you live in the dorm with them all or live separately?" Sun Zheping asked curiously as he tossed a glance to the rest of Happy. As a temporary member that was also a male, he

ended up getting side-lined with An Wenyi often.

"We live in the same clubhouse," An Wenyi answered easily as he took a sip of his canned coffee.

Sun Zheping winced with sympathy. "Oh. How do you feel living with them all?"

"It's like having multiple sisters. I have one so it's a bit easier to adapt," An Wenyi shrugged. "I did always end up on 'taking out the trash duty' but it's not that bad. Honestly, after the initial dysfunction, it's rather good. I'd even say it's better than living with a bunch of dudes. The dorm never smells bad."

"Huh," Sun Zheping made a non-committal noise. "Did you ever accidentally walk in on them."

"A lot," An Wenyi said. "It's just like that when you're the only man. But I talked with them and now they're more reserved about changing shirts in the middle of hallways just because they thought I was outside."

Sun Zheping froze when he heard An Wenyi essentially admitting seeing a couple of forbidden scenes accidentally, he almost sprayed out his soda through his nose. "Motherf..." Sun Zheping was a man after all, he still felt jealous!

Chapter 1: The Sister

Chapter Summary

"She's pretty," Lu Hanwen commented.

"Yes," Yu Wenzhou chuckled. "Still the same as seven years ago..." he sighed.

"Seven years ago, that's a long time ago..." That was half of Lu Hanwen's age. "I wonder if she has a kid..." Lu Hanwen began to ponder seriously.

Yu Wenzhou's smile froze with Lu Hanwen's innocent question.

Chapter Notes

And the simping continues...

"Oh, God, she's still as beautiful as the day she left!"

"Madaaaaaaaaam!"

"She looks more mature and hotter now, how could that be possible?!"

"AAAAAAAA!"

Click.

Lu Hanwen closed the door and muffled the hysteric sounds of simps outside. He rubbed his ears and sighed, "Captain, the senior staff are being weird again." He complained.

"Mm, you can just sit here until they're done," Yu Wenzhou said, not taking his eyes off of his tablet.

"What are you watching?" Lu Hanwen asked curiously as he climbed the sofa to sit beside Yu Wenzhou. He found out that Yu Wenzhou was watching the very same broadcast the seniors were watching in the common room. "It's the same..." He blurted out.

Yu Wenzhou patted Lu Hanwen's head. "I can't concentrate if I watch it with them."

Lu Hanwen understood. "So, I heard the first lady captain is in team Happy? Right?" He asked. "Captain, you know the lady captain?"

Yu Wenzhou smiled and chuckled slightly, finally willing to tear his gaze away from his tablet when a certain woman was no longer on screen. "Haven't you heard the famous story spread around in the camp on how I earn my place in the team? I didn't just know her, I learned from her."

Lu Hanwen was naturally familiar with the *story*. He earnestly gazed at Yu Wenzhou. "What kind of person is she?" The first, the last, and the only female member of Blue Rain.

"She used to be... really coarse. She speaks her mind freely and not afraid of criticism. She would do anything to win. Deviously brilliant. Her passion for Glory is really strong. She's... a wild spirit. A charming and rare woman," Yu Wenzhou smiled unconsciously.

"She's pretty," Lu Hanwen commented.

"Yes," Yu Wenzhou chuckled. "Still the same as seven years ago..." he sighed.

"Seven years ago, that's a long time ago..." That was half of Lu Hanwen's age. "I wonder if she has a kid..." Lu Hanwen began to ponder seriously.

Yu Wenzhou's smile froze with Lu Hanwen's innocent question.

"That was a good game," Ye Xiu said as she brought Su Mucheng over to Excellent Era.

Xiao Shiqin smiled bitterly. "Thank you, senior."

"Oh, Little Xiao. Sweet as always," Ye Xiu hugged Xiao Shiqin lightly and he accepted it with a slight blush.

"Senior is too kind," Xiao Shiqin readjusted his glasses. He was used of getting hugs, Chu Yunxiu liked to hug her friends, Huang Shaotian could really burst your personal bubble when he wanted it, and others. But getting hugged by Ye Xiu would always make him flustered.

"I'm gonna leave with my jie-jie, no need to wait for me," Su Mucheng said for formality, even though everyone knew she'd likely not going back with them at all after her earlier bold display of announcing her leave and went over to Happy's bench.

"Ok," Xiao Shiqin nodded.

"And you," Ye Xiu looked at Sun Xiang.

Sun Xiang bit his lips, thinking Ye Xiu would rub in her victory, and braced himself.

"A character's power is not decided by the player's gender, but by the player itself. Don't get carried away just because One Autumn Leaf is also a man like you, Captain Sun." She smiled lazily and put an unlit cigarette in between her lips. "Let's go, Mucheng."

"Halt," Su Mucheng hugged her arm and gazed at Cui Li who was gazing resentfully at them but cannot say anything because of Excellent Era's loss. "You know, I've always liked girl

captains more than any other. But hey, just personal preference. I hope your next job is going to be cushy," she said meanly and pulled Ye Xiu along with her without waiting for a response.

Xiao Shiqin covered his mouth to stop a gasp from that scathing remark. Even Sun Xiang gazed at Cui Li as if he was surprised at how Cui Li was still alive after that roast.

Cui Li exploded and stomped away with a burning red face of shame.

"I saw that bastard leaving with lobster-red face!" Wei Chen exclaimed and cackled evilly when the two reached the team.

"Really?" Su Mucheng smirked, but she didn't even attempt to look back.

"What did you say to him?" Chen Guo asked.

"Just some personal opinions and good wishes for his future," Su Mucheng said.

"That's the gentle way to describe it," Ye Xiu said as she shook her head. "Don't randomly run your mouth like that again."

"Who cares~?" Su Mucheng stuck out her tongue.

"I'm hungry for lobsters now..." Steamed Bun held her stomach and said sadly.

"Let's eat lobsters then!" Chen Guo said. "Come on, everyone. The guild's guys will come along too!"

"Come on, Zheping," Ye Xiu pushed the temporary member.

"You don't have to always push me, okay?" Sun Zheping said.

"You'll get left behind," Ye Xiu reasoned.

"You're acting like Jiale, naggy," Sun Zheping said.

"That's different, we're reminding you as your sisters. Jiale did it as your wife," Wei Chen said sarcastically.

"Stop that!" Sun Zheping's eyebrows twitched. "Like hell I'm having sisters like you all."

"Just listen to your jie-jie, move your feet!" Wei Chen barked.

"Yes, Zheping. You're starting to sound like Jiale, whiny," Ye Xiu mocked.

"Good God, luckily I'm only temporary," Sun Zheping grumbled under his breath.

"Happy won," Zhang Xinjie said as he readjusted his glasses. He frowned slightly, a bit disbelieving that Sun Xiang added with his fellow Master Tactician, Xiao Shiqin, was unable to stop the advancing new team and even fell in the process.

"A deserving one too," Han Wenqing said. "What was Excellent Era thinking with that kind of state they're in? They want to climb back to the Pro's League with an immature brat and a man who acted like his mom?" he said disdainfully.

"Xiao Shiqin put a bit too much trust on Sun Xiang," Zhang Xinjie agreed. "Next season we'll meet her again." He mentioned.

Han Wenqing glanced at his vice-captain with a raised eyebrows, the tone Zhang Xinjie used was full of intention.

"I didn't expect her to come this far," Zhang Jiale commented. "I thought for sure she was delusional when she invited me to join her team back then."

"What? Do you regret it that you can't be in a team full of girls now?" Lin Jingyan teased lightly.

"What I pursue is championship, not love. If it is, I would have accepted *Ye Qiu*'s offer in a heartbeat even without knowing it would be an all-girls team," Zhang Jiale rolled his eyes. "But I gotta admit that Cleric looks really cushy there," he said jealously.

"But I have to say she looks more relaxed now, right? Maybe because they listen to her well," Lin Jingyan mentioned. "Wei Chen still looks as good as before too," he chuckled.

"You're still in Team Wei?" Zhang Jiale's eyes sparked mischief.

"Hey, hey," Lin Jingyan hastily interjected. "I already have a girlfriend!"

Zhang Jiale snorted, "I'm just kidding, Old Lin."

"Team Wei?" Zhang Xinjie perked up at the unfamiliar term.

"Ah, it's an inside joke from the first and second season's veterans," Zhang Jiale snickered. "Generally, all of the male pros were separated into two teams. One was Team Ye and the other was Team Wei. Sigh, to be young again..." Zhang Jiale sighed dreamily.

Han Wenqing shook his head in exasperation.

"That being said, I can't believe Excellent Era fell that easily," Lin Jingyan frowned.

"For a team who can't stand having a woman staying in shadow to lead them, it's not really that surprising," Han Wenqing said. If Excellent Era cared about the team at all, they should have had Su Mucheng as the vice-captain when Ye Xiu retired but the girl hardly gets any role in the team. Though, that might could be attributed to her detachment to the team as a whole upon Ye Xiu's retirement...

Zhang Xinjie clicked his pen. "I wonder what will they do this summer. Someone will surely transfer there," he stated idly.

"By the way, Old Lin," Zhang Jiale perked up. "About that little girlfriend of yours..."

"So, about the previous session, I'm sorry that I forgot about it," Ye Xiu said slowly as she nodded curtly to the reporters. "We were in a hurry," to celebrate and forget about you all.

"Haha, Captain Ye rarely had to take an interview before so she easily forgot that she has to now," one reporter said teasingly out of reflex. It was hard to get upset with that beautiful face.

"Exactly, everyone's so understanding," Ye Xiu smiled.

"Can we start now?" Wei Chen sighed tiredly as she massaged the back of her neck. Chen Guo had restricted her to a chair and worked together with Tang Rou and Steamed Bun that morning to make her not look like a sleazy lady who just woke up from a night of passion. Wei Chen didn't understand, a sleazy sexy lady was exactly her natural aura, she couldn't change it! She woke up and sexiness automatically chose her!

"Sure, sure," a few male reporters seemed to snap out of their reverie after Wei Chen glared at them.

"How do you feel after defeating your old team, Captain Ye? Have you ever expected that you could actually defeat Excellent Era, a powerhouse?" A reporter asked sharply at Ye Xiu.

"I naturally feel happy that my team could win the Challenger League," Ye Xiu answered directly. She didn't mention anything about Excellent Era and only Happy's victory as a whole. "As for winning or losing, it's only a result, everything comes from effort, after all. I have given my best effort and I naturally expect the best result."

It was a professional answer, she never mentioned her old team a single time.

"Many people are arguing about your loyalty to your old team, what's your opinion about this?"

"No comment."

"You retired in the winter of Season 8 and finally returned again, I just want to ask, what exactly makes you quit Excellent Era? Excellent Era has mentioned that they had no idea you wanted to make a new team."

"I had no idea either, it just happens," Ye Xiu shrugged.

"How could you have no idea about this?" They pressed.

"The same way as you have no idea what I will give as an answer," Ye Xiu said simply. "It just happens, that is life, what else are we supposed to do?" She sighed lamentingly.

...??? Everyone began to have a weird feeling about this, but upon seeing that beautiful smile on that gorgeous face, they kicked aside that feeling.

"Do you think Sun Xiang is a good player for One Autumn Leaf?"

"He's the one holding it right now, I doubt most people could manage," Ye Xiu said.

Why did she always answer non-committally?

Wei Chen leaned back on her chair as Ye Xiu tanked the reporters all by herself without breaking a sweat. She wanted to smoke.

"This is for An Wenyi," suddenly one reporter didn't follow the rest's aim, but aimed for the only man in the team. "How do you feel being the only man in the team?" she said with a friendly smile.

"It's just like the usual," An Wenyi knew he would be in the center of attention sooner or later. Being the only woman in the team was usual in E-sport, but the only man in the team? "Everyone has been nice and understanding."

"Little An is the sweetest boy around," Ye Xiu added, willingly re-directing everyone's trajectory to the only man.

"Being sweetest boy is not exactly a compliment, captain," An Wenyi sighed as he pushed back his glasses.

"How did you assemble your team, Captain Ye?" Another one inquired.

"Well, Little Tang is my co-worker in the internet cafe. I met Steamed Bun on the tenth server. Qiao Yifan got delivered to me by a certain someone, along with some others that I didn't recall. I found Luo Ji on the tenth server too. I persuaded Wei Chen after a few words. As for Wenyi..." Ye Xiu pondered how she should describe 'snatching him after spying on enemy's guild for days' in an eloquent and subtle manner when Wei Chen blurted out.

"Lottery."

"Lottery?"

Ye Xiu liked that and nodded. "Lottery." It was kind of a lottery since it was a cheap bet of sneaking around and spying an enemy's guild to scout a good Cleric.

An Wenyi nodded blankly. "Lottery."

"What kind of lottery?" Another asked in confusion.

"The usual. You go, you see, you bet, you pick," Ye Xiu shrugged.

A reporter looked at An Wenyi seriously. "What kind of lottery it is? I still don't understand."

- "About a dozen or so Clerics were gathered in one place, we then have to display our talent in playing it, the best one gets chosen," An Wenyi nodded to Ye Xiu.
- "Where did this 'gathering' commence?" A girl reporter asked seriously.
- "Secret society," Wei Chen replied with an equally serious manner.

Now, everyone knew they were being led around.

- "Captain Ye...?" They looked at Ye Xiu seriously, begging for an answer.
- "No, she's right. Secret society." Ye Xiu deadpanned.
- "..." Every single reporter looked at Ye Xiu's pretty face as if they had been betrayed. What beautiful face?! She was so difficult! What a real-life clickbait!
- "Do you have any plan to add someone to the line-up?" A girl reporter didn't seem to be too disturbed by it. She simply smiled and continued asking sane questions.
- "Naturally," Ye Xiu smiled.
- "Why would I want to transfer?" Song Xiao chuckled nervously as he glanced at Huang Shaotian who watched him from the side like an eagle. "You're on speaker, by the way."
- "We got girls here?" Ye Xiu offered indifferently.
- "Tempting..." Song Xiao said. "But no..."
- "We'll win championship," Ye Xiu tried again.
- "Already did. And Blue Rain has more chance to win anyway," Song Xiao said as his knees began to jump uncomfortably. "Moreover, I have a good position here, why would I want to leave?" Song Xiao sighed. Blue Rain lost Yu Feng just last season, that wound was pretty new.
- "We can give you a position too? Come on, don't you want to win another championship with an almost all-girls team?!"

Song Xiao shook his head. "Is being an all-girls team your strong selling point?"

- "To you, Blue Rain's guys? Yes. Just yes," Ye Xiu said honestly.
- "How depraved are we to you, huh?!" Huang Shaotian jumped in.
- "Well, you guys always look desperate and never even hid it," Ye Xiu, as one of the rare female pros, of course, got hit on a lot whenever she encountered Blue Rain in the past.
- Song Xiao smiled sheepishly, guilty as charged. Huang Shaotian pouted, also guilty as charged.

"Anyway, where's Captain Wei?" Huang Shaotian asked in a heartbeat and Song Xiao bit his lips.

"Will she be able to persuade Song Xiao to join Happy?" Ye Xiu asked seriously. "I will even let her beg if that's the case."

"NO! I just want to talk to her, dammit! Is that shameless woman unwilling to talk to me now?! Heartless! Ruthless! Shameless!" Huang Shaotian exploded.

"Watch your mouth, brat," Wei Chen's voice came out through the receiver.

Song Xiao swooned as Huang Shaotian plucked the phone off of his hand. *God! She sounds raspier than Goddess Ye!*

"Boss Wei! You finally talked, how are you? Why are you in her team? Didn't you detest Ye-jie? How did you guys find each other? Why didn't you come to Blue Rain? Come to visit, oi! The old guys here miss you!" Huang Shaotian demanded.

"You lost her," Ye Xiu answered instead. "And isn't it fitting for us women of Pioneer Generation to stick together? Of course, she's with me."

"It DOESN'T make any sense!" Huang Shaotian yelled back.

"Give the phone back to Song Xiao, is he going to join my team or not?"

"NO!" Huang Shaotian rejected firmly.

"Sheesh. A waste of time. Fine then, bye."

"Wait—Give the phone to Boss—"

Piiip...

"YE QIUUUU!!!!!" Huang Shaotian shrilled.

Fang Rui sighed in frustration as she closed the door to her room and plopped down the bed, scowling all the while. She recalled Tang Hao's nasty glare and insults.

"We don't need a dirty playing style."

Fang Rui hugged Demon Subduer plushie close.

"Can't you act like a woman and stop playing like that instead?"

"Ugh," Fang Rui tossed a pillow across her room and clenched her teeth. Years she stepped into this industry ever since Blue Rain's Fang Shijing scouted her, this was the first time

people treated her this coldly! She couldn't accept it! She was unwilling! Where was her gentle boyfriend who would usually console her- oh, right, the club kicked him out!

So what of her playing dirty? Wasn't Glory's top Battle Goddess also played with a dirty and effective playstyle?

Fang Rui wanted to cry. Damn! She was getting overtly emotional, it seemed like her time of the month was coming.

Fang Rui picked up her phone and pouted. She angrily went to Weibo and typed down her feelings.

Fang Rui V: My love has been exhausted.

Five minutes after she sent that, 'Girls of Glory' chatroom immediately got swarmed by messages from other female players that expressed their concern and encouragement. Seeing thus, Fang Rui teared up.

Ah! Only the girls could be her comfort in this trying time! Screw Tang Hao, screw Zhao Yuzhe, screw them all!

However, Fang Rui was not ready to face them so she could only turn off her phone and went to bed with frustration.

The next morning, she woke up with countless notifications about her status in Weibo and the Girls of Glory chatroom full of unread messages that mentioned her ID.

Windy Rain: Go with Sis Ye and MuMu, sis. Leave them who do not cherish you. @Doubtful Demon

Firebird Messenger: Leave them in the dust, sis! I know Zhao Yuzhe could be a jerk!

Windy Rain: I'll support you wholly if you transfer to Sis Ye's team.

Lord Grim: We can talk about the details in person;) @**Doubtful Demon**

Fang Rui blinked in confusion. She opened the Weibo and finally see the most popular reply to her status.

Ye Xiu V: Wanna come to Happy? We still have a slot for another girl:)

Su Mucheng V: Guess who's here? :-) [Pic of the entire team Happy with Fang Rui winking to the camera in the center.]

• Li Xuan V: They really be going around collecting the girls! Hide your women! Hide your wives!

• Song Xiao V: I'm jealous of the Cleric! I'm jealous of the Cleric! T_T
• Li Hua V: Seems like we have to guard our captain more tightly now.
• Chu Yunxiu V: Good for you guys! ^_^
• Wu Yuce V: Must be fun and lively there.
• Tian Sen V: They're really going for an all-girls team (sans the Cleric)?!?!
• Fear For Your Life: Didn't know Excellent Era's previous captain is this obsessed with having girls in team. Can't believe they managed to beat Excellent Era. Must be a fluke.
• Flowers Picker: I'm afraid this team is going to flop immediately in the alliance. Ye Qiu seems to only exclusively picked girls. Now, Fang Rui plays a Qi Master instead of Thief? Crazy.
• I Might Have A Couple Issues: Upstairs, shut your trap, my family's Fang Rui originally played a Qi Master, a true fan will know this. This team rocks!
• Fang Shijing: Fucking shit. That is TWO GIRLS formerly in Blue Rain! WHAT IS WRONG WITH YOU?!
[4723 More Comments]
"Sister!" A surprising guest came out of nowhere in the middle of Summer. Ye Xiu froze when she saw her.

"Ye Qiu?" Ye Xiu furrowed her brows when she saw the luggage her twin sister brought with her. "I'm not going home yet—"

"I don't care! I'm still running away whether you're returning or not!" Ye Qiu said indignantly.

Ye Xiu's big sister alarm went off, yet still, she voiced her disapproval, "You can't be like this."

"I can't be like this? Then, what I should do? Obediently getting married off by our father in a political marriage?!" Ye Qiu yelled indignantly.

"He did- WHAT?!" Ye Xiu exclaimed in shock.

"I've pushed off many marriage proposals for the last six years, but recently father is getting impatient. He said I need to get married to a good man soon and even threatened that he will pick a candidate himself if I can't make up my mind," Ye Qiu sobbed into a bunch of tissues all the girls gave her.

"Maybe, you can talk with him nicely that you still want to continue your career," Luo Ji said.

"I've wasted every trick in the book! He's really impatient right now," Ye Qiu whined. "He even forced me to attend a night party a week ago."

"Ugh..." Tang Rou frowned. She never liked that kind of party.

"At that party, there's this persistent guy who never gives up despite my countless refusals to his proposals. Can you believe he snuck a drug into my wine?"

Everyone gasped.

"Bastard!"

"Let's beat up this guy!" Steamed Bun punched her palm. "Names!"

"That's awful!" Qiao Yifan exclaimed.

"You should sue," Mo Fan spoke up for the first time. She hated this kind of crime the most!

"Son of a bitch..." Ye Xiu growled hatefully. "Are you okay?" She asked in concern.

"I didn't drink the wine since... you know," Ye Qiu gestured.

"You can't handle alcohol," Chen Guo pointed out.

"Yeah..." Ye Qiu twirled her fingers delicately. "And I noticed he kept glancing at me and urging me to drink so I switched my glass when he wasn't looking. Someone else drank it and I saw it myself how he passed out in just under a minute. Another man tried to get me to a dressing room alone by paying the waiter to spill a drink on my dress, I couldn't escape from their urging and fell into a trap. Luckily, grandpa's lesson is still fresh in my mind so I

kicked him in the crotch, poked his eyes, and hit him in the head with the nearest solid object."

"That is getting out of hand. This happens in one party?" Ye Xiu asked.

"One party," Ye Qiu nodded.

"Which family's bastards are they?" Ye Xiu glared.

"One is B City's Jing family, the other one is of Shang family, the latter is already in prison after father tossed him there but he still pushed me to get married!"

"Fucking hell, you rich young ladies get it rough," Wei Chen said.

"And father said I STILL need to make up my mind. Citing that I won't want to be a leftover woman, blah, blah," Ye Qiu gestured. "And that no one would bother me again once I have a man..."

Three women's faces darkened.

"The hell is he talking about, did he forget he still has another daughter outside?" Ye Xiu sneered. "Isn't he a man himself?"

"Your father sounds like a jerk," Chen Guo said. "No offense."

"Has your dad ever get slapped in the face by a *leftover* woman yet?" Wei Chen hissed.

"Uwaahh, scary..." Fang Rui murmured.

"Alright, you stay with your jie-jie from now on. To hell with them. I won't let you marry unless you want it," Ye Xiu said responsibly as she patted her sister's head. "Don't worry, I'll protect you. You can live here from now on."

Ye Qiu looked at her, eyes glistening hopefully. "Can I? Then, I will stay here!"

Ye Xiu smiled sweetly. "Boss, sorry, but it seems like you will have to house another one. You can cut her expense from my salary."

"What are you talking about? Don't be ridiculous! It's just another person," Chen Guo rejected flat out.

"I still have cash with me. About one or two million," Ye Qiu sniffed. "But I think all of my cards should be banned by now."

Ye Xiu snorted. "Doesn't matter. We'll make do with what we have. We don't need them."

"Thank you, everyone," Ye Qiu's smile finally bloomed. "If there's anything I could help, please tell me."

"Just kick back and relax. You can even play Glory with us," Ye Xiu said.

Su Mucheng V: GUESS who ELSE is here? ;) ;p [Picture was taken from a higher pov of Ye Xiu and Ye Qiu sitting side by side. Ye Xiu seemed to explain something on the screen of the computer to Ye Qiu who watched intently while biting her lips.]

- **Huang Shaotian V:** What are you doing sharing a photoshopped image? Unless it isn't? If it isn't, then, I have several questions. Starting from 5W+1H.
- **Zhang Xinjie V:** This is not edited. She's a twin?
- Huang Shaotian V: WHAT?! A TWIN?! THEN, THE NAME YE XIU IS----?!?!?! Groupchat NOW.
- Simping for Goddess Ye: We have two goddess Ye? THIS IS A WIN FOR ME!
- Han Wenging V: Never heard her twin before...
- Wang Jiexi V: In all this time...?
- Zhou Zekai V: O O
- Update On The Female Glory Pros: They're all hot. I repeat, they're all hot. Protect at all cost!
- Yu Wenzhou V: What a cute pair of sisters ^_^
- Chu Yunxiu V: *whistles* seems like Keyi and Kexin is no longer the only pair of sisters in the Alliance. You guys got rivals @Shu Kexin @Shu Keyi
- Shu Kexin V: We can be the 'young twins' instead (:

• Shu Keyi V: More sisters! ^_^

[2423 More Comments...]

Desert Dust: You have a twin sister. (a)Lord Grim

Lord Grim: Well spotted.

Troubling Rain: So the name. She's Ye Xiu? And you're Ye Qiu? Why is she the captain? Why am I so confused? What sort of brain damage are you trying to inflict on us? I feel like we're actually seeing you committing a crime. The Alliance and Excellent Era said YE QIU is your stage name...? Anyway, where's Boss Wei?

Lord Grim: I'm Ye Xiu. She's Ye Qiu. She's not the Captain. I don't know. I'm not. Maybe? Yeah, they did. Wei-da jie is showering rn.

Vaccaria: If she's Ye Qiu and you're Ye Xiu and has always been Ye Xiu... Why did you call yourself Ye Qiu?

Lord Grim: To match my dear One Autumn Leaf.

Immovable Rock: I have a feeling that you're actually lying.

Lord Grim: I am.

Vaccaria: ...

Desert Dust: ...

Swoksaar: ...

Sobbing Ghost: ...

Cloud Piercer: ...

Windy Rain: You're humourous, sister.

Lord Grim: I'm just messing with you guys. Don't you think it's aesthetic to have a name matching with your character? It's pretty.

One Autumn Leaf: You, women, and your aesthetic.

Windy Rain: Shut up. If it's pretty then it's pretty.

Lord Grim: On the other hand, the one who named YiYe is Mucheng. But I did play him all this time, my sister's name is just a stage name I used because I also often miss her. Right now, she's staying with me so that longing is already cured. She might even join in.

Dancing Rain: She will join.

Lord Grim: Mucheng, I'm selling mystery here.

Receding Tide: Okay, okay! I think everyone is missing the point here, let's get back to the

serious question.

Receding Tide: @Lord Grim so, sister Ye. About your sister... Is she single?

Angelica: Is she single? +1

Blossoming Chaos: Is she single? +2

Bullet Rain: Is she single? +3

Soul Speaker: Is she single? +4

Sobbing Ghost: Is she single? +5

Cruel Silence: Is she single? +6

Ghost Lantern: Is she single? +7

•

Endless Forest: Is she single? +20

Boundless Sea: Boys will be boys. [*Rolls eyes*]

Glory's Pros; Inner Circle (Gossips Clarification) Owner: Dancing Rain

Dancing Rain: Okay, let's clarify some problems here, just between us, friends.

Lord Grim: Fine.

Desert Dust: You know I've seen your ID card once, right?

Vaccaria: I have too...

Dazzling Hundred Blossoms: You gave me your ID card years ago to register you to a dog club of all thing.

Troubling Rain: I held your ID card a few times when I escort you to the airport and bought your ticket for you

Swoksaar: You left your purse in Blue Rain's club once. I found it and searched for the ID card to see whose it was.

Lord Grim: How did you guys remember such useless things? That ID card has long outdated, I've made a new one in Season 6.

Desert Dust: You used your sister's identity to register.

Lord Grim: :)

Dark Thunder: I can't believe you.

Troubling Rain: Holy fuck have you lost your mind, woman?!

Vaccaria: Senior Ye, that is some serious problem.

Desert Dust: I don't know what I have to do with you, anymore.

Immovable Rock: You have so many chances to fix it, but you didn't.

Dazzling Hundred Blossoms: Ye Xiu, you're crazy T T

Windy Rain: @Lord Grim @Dancing Rain I'm hurt you guys never let me in on the secret.

Dancing Rain: It's not that much of a juicy secret. It's just my jie-jie being my reckless jie-jie.

Lord Grim: (a) Everyone This will be our little secret, yes? ;))

Dancing Rain: Snitches get stitches. ^v^

Cloud Piercer: OK

Lord Grim: That's nice of you, Little Zhou:*

Troubling Rain: You're not using your womanly charm out of this, Ye-JIE!!! And why only Zhou Zekai get that kiss emoji?! Don't think just because Zhou Zekai easily accepted this I could accept this as easily too. You never even told us your real name before this appeared out of nowhere!!!

Lord Grim: But my womanly charm always works.

Desert Dust: Expect me to ask you for the answer once we meet.

Lord Grim: My, how tyrannical.

Windy Rain: ^o^ Go get her, Senior Han!

A Slow Summer

Chapter Summary

"Okay, we need ideas to improve our living conditions and earn money on the side," Ye Xiu said as she slammed her hand on the table. "We have spent five thousand yuan more than the previous month and a fifth went to... Scented candle?" Ye Xiu furrowed her brows. "How did we spend so much on scented candles?"

"That's what I want to ask as well," An Wenyi sighed in exasperation.

Chapter Notes

See the end of the chapter for <u>notes</u>

"Captain," Qiu Fei greeted when the door was opened.

"I'm not," Ye Qiu answered calmly.

"Oh," Qiu Fei nodded, equally calm. "Captain's sister?"

Ye Qiu nodded. "You're my sister's friend? A member?"

"No, I'm an ex-..." Qiu Fei paused and thought it over. No wait, that was not right Qiu Fei was *technically not* Ye Xiu's *teammate*.

Ye Qiu gazed at the boy in front of her in disbelief. "Ex-boyfriend?!" Her sister was eating such a young grass?! This kid didn't even look eighteen! *At least wait until he's a bit older!* Ye Qiu was terrified.

Qiu Fei blinked in surprise. He then realized that he paused at an ambiguous word and turned flustered. "No, you misunderstand. I'm an ex-teammate," Qiu Fei squeezed out.

Ye Qiu calmed down. "I see. You're here to visit?" She scanned Qiu Fei. From what she learned from Su Mucheng, Ye Xiu wasn't treated fairly at his old team, so why did this little ex-teammate come and find her?

"Yes, I happened to pass by," Qiu Fei didn't flinch under her gaze.

"Who's outside?" Su Mucheng walked behind Ye Qiu and saw the visitor. "Oh! Little Qiu! You come to visit."

Ye Qiu opened the door wider. "You know him?" she signaled.

Su Mucheng smiled. "Yeah, he's Xiu-jie's student. Lovely boy and always very determined," she introduced. "Come on in, Little Qiu. You should accompany Wenyi, Rongfei is not exactly a good company and he has locked himself in the RnD again..." She sighed.

"Okay," Qiu Fei nodded. "I bring strawberry cheesecake."

"You don't have to," Su Mucheng crooned.

The three then went to the main living area where the team was lounging.

Ye Xiu was trying to persuade Chen Guo about the team's jacket design and how she didn't need to try everything. She saw her sister and immediately called her. "Ye Qiu, come over and try these jackets with me so I can see how we'll look in them." If you're too lazy to change, get your identical twin sister to do it for you! It's just the same as the mirror. She then noticed a guest beside them. "Oh, Little Qiu," she smiled.

"Captain," Qiu Fei nodded.

"I'm no longer your captain, you should call me Xiu-jie, instead," Ye Xiu said. "That one is Qiu-xiaojie. Do you understand?"

"Yes," Qiu Fei did not question further. Ye Qiu turned Ye Xiu now, and the one named Ye Qiu was actually the captain's little sister. No conflict there. Qiu Fei was not one to fuss over small things, as long as his captain was happy. "But I still would like to call you Captain."

"Sheesh, this boy," Ye Xiu shook her head fondly. "Wenyi is at the back, Bun, call him over to accompany Qiu Fei."

"Aye, aye!" Steamed Bun stood up and happily skipped away.

"Are you staying for dinner?" Chen Guo warmly welcomed Qiu Fei. Of all Excellent Era's people, she only tolerated Qiu Fei back then sans Su Mucheng, he looked like a good boy and he respected her idols so her impression of him was quite good. "We're having a take-out today, someone blew up the kitchen yesterday."

"No, I'm just staying briefly to talk with Captain and Su-jie," Qiu Fei said politely, he paused for a bit before adding, "Also An Wenyi." The two had met back in the final of Challenger League, when An Wenyi learned that Qiu Fei was one of the only people both Ye Xiu and Su Mucheng liked in Excellent Era, he had approached him, thinking that; maybe his days as the only male in the clubhouse would finally end.

Unfortunately, Qiu Fei didn't join Happy and opted to revive Excellent Era under the new management, but the two had become quite a good friend. Qiu Fei sympathized a lot with An Wenyi, but also admired him deeply. Happy's girls looked... handful. Ye Xiu and Su Mucheng were pretty calm in Excellent Era, but Happy's composition of almost entirely women seemed to just punch a switch. Their energy looked endless.

An Wenyi entered as if on cue after that. He was dripping wet, his spectacles were nowhere to be seen. He went straight to the pile of jackets that were Chen Guo's chosen designs for

their future team jackets, picked one up, and was about to walk back to the kitchen when Steamed Bun, equally wet, also stepped into the living area.

Qiu Fei immediately directed his eyes to the ceilings when he noticed the wet clothes clung tightly to Steamed Bun's flattering form.

"I said stay in the kitchen, didn't I?" An Wenyi tossed the jacket to Steamed Bun.

"How am I sure you won't accuse me of breaking it myself to boss?" Steamed Bun pouted as she tried to put aside the jacket.

"You wear that, go change," An Wenyi rubbed his head. "Where's Qiu Fei- Qiu Fei, come and help me fix the sink and the tap."

"You sure you don't need me to call a repair guy?" Ye Xiu asked.

"No, no, I got this. Qiu Fei?" An Wenyi said.

"Sure," Qiu Fei took off his jacket first.

"You know, we might be the only host in history that asked the guest to repair our sink outright," Luo Ji said to Qiao Yifan.

Qiu Fei couldn't help but silently agreed with that.

"So, what do you want to play?" Ye Xiu asked gently to her sister. "Everyone already showed their classes, if you want to have the same class, it's fine too. More fun that way, hm?"

"What do you need?" Ye Qiu asked back.

"Need?" Ye Xiu blinked. "Ye Qiu, you don't need to join the team if you want to play," she smiled dotingly.

"But I want to help," Ye Qiu frowned.

"Alright," Ye Xiu said helplessly. She really couldn't help but spoiling her sister more after all she had gone through. Can Ye Xiu really say 'no' to the twin sister who got pressured at home, almost get dragged, and almost get sexually assaulted at one party? No. Ye Xiu couldn't.

Ye Xiu hummed as she turned her brain for ideas. She then recalled back then when she invited Zhang Jiale to join but he refused, she also then recalled the twin Sharpshooters that she tried to coax to join but they rejected her coldly just because she was poor (okay, maybe not *only* because of that).

A gunner. She needed a precise gunner.

Spitfire or Sharpshooter?

Ye Xiu asked Ye Qiu this and she didn't seem to understand.

So, Ye Xiu patiently explained it to her. She wasn't in a hurry, after all, the team was already made and they already had a Launcher. Still, Ye Xiu spent time teaching her sister this.

"With Spitfire, you use a gun and all kinds of grenades with varied effects. With Sharpshooter, you can use two guns and use a better gun-fu on close range, see? Both require precision and accuracy." Ye Xiu ended her explanation as Ye Qiu put her head on her shoulder, humming indecisively.

"You need either one?" Ye Qiu asked.

"Yes. Sharpshooter's ability in tearing down enemy's defense sharply is good. Spitfire's ability in screening is also pretty good."

Ye Qiu hummed again. "I can't choose yet. Let's move to another stage," she straightened. "The possible silver weapon and equipments for them."

"I'm glad you asked that."

"Ah!" Ye Qiu jolted in surprise as Ye Xiu glared at the offender.

"Don't appear so suddenly like that, Rongfei."

"Sorry, ladies," Guan Rongfei readjusted his glasses. "I couldn't help but pipe in when I heard about Silver Weapons and Equipments."

"What? You have your opinion on what my sister should play?" Ye Xiu arched an eyebrow.

"No, I don't want to be that involved. I'm just going to state the fact that I will be interested in working on Spitfire equipments and weapons. But I already have some sketches on Sharpshooter ready too," Guan Rongfei readjusted his glasses which gleamed due to the low light. "It's been sitting in there for.... six years. It's practically useless since Su Mucheng took over."

"How many?" Ye Xiu perked up.

"Not much. Just a belt, the pants, the boots, the upper body shirts, we can make the rest as we go."

"If Sharpshooter already has some silver designs ready, I'll be a Sharpshooter," Ye Qiu said understandingly. "It's more effective that way." As expected of the girl CEO- no, no, it should be former woman CEO.

Guan Rongfei nodded, "The weapon, though... It will be quite a challenge."

"The weapon..." Ye Xiu murmured. "I have a blueprint for two guns."

"You do?" Guan Rongfei was genuinely surprised.

"Yeah. But it only has the sketch up to level 50," Ye Xiu smiled helplessly. "I have to ask Su Mucheng first, though."

"What's up? I heard my name," Su Mucheng popped in.

"We're talking about Ye Qiu possibly being a Sharpshooter. Rongfei here already has several Silver equipments' blueprints for it but missing the weapons. I was just thinking of reviving them..."

"Oh... You mean Devil's Snare and Angel's Effulgence?" Su Mucheng brightened. "Do it!"

"You're okay with it?" Ye Xiu asked.

"Duh, the blueprint is with you, no? You can do whatever you want with it," Su Mucheng smiled. "It's fine, it's not like it's a sacred holy thing that shouldn't be touched. In fact, I'm sure he'll be happy that they see the light of the day!" Su Mucheng seemed very excited at the idea. "Devouring Sun, Myriad Manifestation Umbrella, now Devil's Snare and Angel's Effulgence! Four of his five greatest creations!"

"His?" Ye Qiu tilted her head questioningly.

"My late brother's," Su Mucheng replied.

"Oh," Ye Qiu nodded. No wonder Ye Xiu wanted to have Su Mucheng's permission first. "Then, I'll have to thank you."

"Xiaojie, you're like a sister to me already. Don't be so polite!" Su Mucheng instinctively hugged the older woman.

Ye Qiu smiled. "I promise you I will be good enough for them."

"You're good enough as you are."

Ye Xiu looked at Guan Rongfei as Su Mucheng kept on validating Ye Qiu. "Alright, I'll leave it to you for the equipment. I'll give you the blueprints for both guns later."

"Leave it to me," Guan Rongfei nodded. He never felt burdened when it came to researching and creating.

"Yeah, that's my twin sister," Ye Xiu nodded.

"Ye Xiu..." Chairman Feng wanted to cry. "At least speak up first before you're revealing you have a twin sister named YE QIU to the world!" he exclaimed. "Do you know how much we have worked with the PR to spread the news YOUR stage name is Ye Qiu? People are beginning to question."

"Just say I initially used that name as a stage name to tease my little sister," Ye Xiu said.

"You're making this more complicated than it could be. People would still ask, you know?" Feng Xianjun said.

"They'll stop asking when they see my sister playing," Ye Xiu said. "It's just between you and me, she's a complete noob. It's quite painful to see someone that old to be so bad at a game..." she sighed. Of course, she never dared to say that out loud to her own twin sister, she already had enough in her plate after the attempts of forced engagement and stuffs. If she told her that she sucked hard at a game too, she would probably cry and then Su Mucheng would make Ye Xiu regret it. Su Mucheng didn't spend most of her time validating Ye Qiu and cursing out the people that made her sad only for Ye Xiu to make her cry.

Even Qiao Yifan would be upset and *no one* upset that girl.

"You really think that will work?" Feng Xianjun scrutinized.

"Old Feng, why else would I use a different name the second time I arrived? I never do a crime with my name as I re-joined *after* the one-year required break after retirement," Ye Xiu pointed out.

"Well... Fine, I'm letting this slide because it's *you*," the champion of three seasons of the Pro League *and* the only female champion. "At least you show your face now."

"Okay, we need ideas to improve our living conditions and earn money on the side," Ye Xiu said as she slammed her hand on the table. "We have spent five thousand yuan more than the previous month and a fifth went to... Scented candle?" Ye Xiu furrowed her brows. "How did we spend so much on scented candles?"

"That's what I want to ask as well," An Wenyi sighed in exasperation.

"Well, everyone has their own taste for scented candles," Tang Rou said seriously.

"And it was on sale," Wei Chen piped in.

"Okay, so let's expect that we'll not spend anything on scented candles for a long time," An Wenyi readjusted his glasses. "Also, the water bill spiked up a lot during these few months, please use water moderately."

"Ehh." There were murmurs of discontent but no one directly refused.

"Okay, alright, let's talk about our spending plan," An Wenyi said. "Don't whine on me. We should be more independent soon, we can't keep relying on lady boss."

"Several offers for endorsement have come," Chen Guo mentioned as she cluelessly looked over the documents. "But I'm not sure which one is appropriate."

"Okay, we'll go through that later, any other idea?" Ye Xiu asked.

"We could re-sell the candles that we don't like?" Qiao Yifan twirled her fingers slightly.

- "Reselling, huh..." Ye Xiu furrowed her brows. "We'll shelf that for now."
- "Being a team almost made up entirely of women is really hard, huh?" Wei Chen mentioned with a careless smile.
- "Anyways," Ye Qiu said. "I have helped Wei-dajie on investing her money to several markets, the money should be back in a few months or so..."
- "But we need money now," Ye Xiu said.
- "It's not that urgent, I can still sustain the team with the money I have," Chen Guo said.
- "Still, we need a gig," Ye Xiu said. "At least we should have some income before the summer ends."
- "What kind of idea do you have?" Su Mucheng perked up.
- "We can't stray too far from our practice, right?" Wei Chen scratched her butt and Chen Guo slapped her hand.
- "How about streaming?" Su Mucheng piped in.
- "That's a good idea," An Wenyi was immediately on board with that.
- Chen Guo clapped her hands. "Right, right! Streaming!" She liked that idea very much!
- "Streaming ourselves playing Glory?" Ye Xiu tilted her head. "That way, we can make money while practicing, huh?"
- "Not to mention, if Su Mucheng does a live stream, many fans would absolute come to watch." Chen Guo would know, she *would* come to watch too if she hadn't been their boss now.
- "Not just me, everyone here," Su Mucheng said. "It's a bit rare having talent and visuals of a pretty lady in live-streaming," she said.
- "But, wouldn't it be boring if everyone does the same thing?" Luo Ji questioned.
- "Hm..." Tang Rou lowered her head thoughtfully.
- "Well, there's that," Fang Rui spoke up. "Live-streaming is a good idea, but I'm afraid not everyone could do it."
- "That's right. No one would want to watch a male cleric," An Wenyi nodded. Aside from being pretty mediocre in talent, An Wenyi also played Cleric, the most boring class to watch out there.
- "Owh, not *you*, Wenyi," Fang Rui crooned before pausing. "Okay, maybe *you*. But what I meant to say, that Big Sister over there would absolutely be banned in the streaming service because of her mouth," she pointed at Wei Chen.

"We could prepare ourselves to not curse?" Qiao Yifan asked, she didn't want anyone to not be involved.

"Laoniang will curse certainly," Wei Chen said. "It's just a natural response- Ow, fuck! What the hell, Ye Xiu?!" she glared at the woman who pinched her arm.

Ye Xiu shook her head. "I think we should fix that problem of yours, Wei," she pointed out. "From now on, let's have a swear jar. Anyone who swears, put five yuan in the jar."

Chen Guo left to get a jar.

"Are you kidding me? Are you trying to suppress me?!" In this whole team and building, Wei Chen was the only one who cursed periodically! She cursed like she breathed! After all, what was life if she couldn't curse her opponent's seven generations of family!?

"Extra income~" Su Mucheng clapped her hand.

"Oi!" Wei Chen gazed at her disbelievingly. "You can't do this to me! What happens to solidarity amongst women?!"

"It's just five yuan, you're making it bigger than it should. Didn't you have still millions to your name?" Chen Guo returned with a jar and gazed at the older woman in disdain.

Fang Rui snickered. "With Wei-dajie's frequent cursing, I doubt she would have a penny left by the end of the year."

"This is a set up," Wei Chen growled.

"Don't worry, Wei-dajie, I'll do my best to remind you before you say it out," Qiao Yifan was very supportive.

"I got it," Tang Rou smiled.

"Huh?" Everyone turned to her.

"We all could have a live-stream, but it would be boring if everyone do the same thing," Tang Rou said. "So let's split up the job."

"Well... I mean, if two to three people do the same thing, it might still be acceptable. But I agree it will be boring if everyone does it," Su Mucheng agreed.

"How do we split it, though?" Luo Ji asked.

"We'll have our own segment," Tang Rou said. "I can have an arena segment where I would fight," fight, fight, fight, Tang Rou liked her idea very much. "The others would do a slightly different things to spice things up."

"Shoot," Ye Xiu crossed her arms and put the tip of her pen on her chin.

- "Xiu-jie could broadcast her training session with Qiu-jie. So you two could train and the audience could also slowly separate the name 'Ye Qiu' with *Qiu-jie*, aren't we aiming for that too?"
- "Indeed," Ye Xiu's eyes sparked. "If they see QiuQiu struggle while I trained her, the suspicion and those pesky conspiracy theorists could shut up for a while."
- "Not to mention, it might garner a fanbase for Qiu-jie!" Su Mucheng piped in. "Some people could relate with Qiu-jie who just learned Glory and will root for her," she was familiar with the world of idolizing. In this kind of age, everyone would root for anything that garnered their sympathy and touch that thread of relatability.
- "What else?" Ye Xiu rocked her chair.
- "As for Wei-dajie, her livestream could be the usual game. Either fighting, or even leading troops to snatch boss. But the gimmick in hers would be that she is not allowed to curse and if she cursed she had to put money in the swear jar, I'm sure that would be amusing to watch," Tang Rou smiled mischievously.
- "Hey, hey, are you girls teaming up on laoniang or what?" Wei Chen stared in shock.
- "I have to admit that is a genius idea, Xiao Tang," Ye Qiu smiled. "As expected of Tang family's eldest young miss."
- "I'm nothing compared to you, Qiu-xiaojie," Tang Rou smiled. "Just these few small ideas are nothing. But I'm glad it sounds interesting."
- "Hey, are we sure that dajie wouldn't just get banned from streaming service because of her R-rated mouth?" Fang Rui spoke up.
- Tang Rou hummed, "Then, have someone else who will do the livestream with her to nudge her before she completes the sentence."
- "I don't think a nudge will stop her. Just slap her shoulder or shut her up by covering her mouth," Ye Xiu smiled.
- "..." Wei Chen smiled brilliantly. Very good, she really wanted to slap Ye Xiu.
- "I'll volunteer for that, then," Fang Rui happily said as she twirled her pigtails.
- "Fuck off, all of you," Wei Chen growled.
- "Jie," Qiao Yifan said softly as she tugged Wei Chen's sleeve in a flustered attempt to calm her down.
- "We have to plan our gimmick," Chen Guo frowned. "So it doesn't feel boring, huh..."
- "We can think up other ideas as we go," Ye Xiu smiled.

"This is so hard, why can't we just sell calendars and be done with it?" Wei Chen said bluntly.

Everyone gazed at the oldest woman in shock.

"What? Why are you looking at me like that?!" Wei Chen exclaimed.

"Wei Chen, what the fuck?" Ye Xiu blurted out.

"Being a calendar girl? I have a BOYFRIEND!" Fang Rui exclaimed.

"What's calendar girl?" Bun tilted her head.

"Is that my cue to leave?" An Wenyi asked awkwardly.

"Th-that's not really proper, right?" Ye Qiu blushed and looked away.

"I-I'm still in college, I don't think that's appropriate?" Luo Ji panicked with a face as red as a ripe tomato.

Qiao Yifan offered nothing but covering her red face, everyone could almost see steam puffing out of her. Mo Fan didn't even deign to acknowledge any of them.

"Da-jie..." Su Mucheng mumbled.

"WEI CHEN, What are you talking about!?" Even Chen Guo was blushing furiously at that suggestion.

Wei Chen looked at them all in astonishment. "Holy shit, why do you guys immediately think of calendar girls when I say that? Honest to God, I didn't even think of anything dirty when I said that. I only thought we could probably make a calendar from wooden blocks or something, I'm good at craft."

"...That's five yuan from you. Swear jar." Ye Xiu pointed to the jar, brows furrowed in annoyance. But she kept the wooden block calendar idea in mind.

Su Mucheng V: Swear jar is full in just three days of its installment. [Picture of a jar full of five yuan bill]

- Fang Rui V: We're gonna need a bigger one than that.
- The air that Su Mucheng breathed in: Just how many times do you guys curse in a day?

- *Lin Jingyan V:* I have a feeling most of that money came from one person.
- **Huang Shaotian V:** Rookie number. Blue Rain's fastest record in full swear jar is a day. More precisely 17 hours after its installment and I wasn't even trying back then. Beat that record, I doubt you can.
- *For Reals:* Who swore that much?

Fang Rui V: We're now selling candles. Limited stock. The captain is not happy with our last 'Happy Purchase'. [Picture of Ye Xiu gesturing fiercely to a stack of candles in the corner while Luo Ji could be seen stifling laughter at the side]

- Lin Jingyan V: That is NOT happy purchase. Now, I'm actually worried you're in a team of enablers.
 - Fang Rui V: It IS a Happy Purchase. My team's name is Happy now, whatever we buy is a happy purchase -3-
- Feng Jing (Blue Rain): Xiao Fang, is there a stock that has been used but no longer used by Captain Wei? Wait, no, if she's as much as had touched it, I'll buy in bulk.
 - Fang Rui V: Well, you're in luck. Do you want a special card of insults with that? Personally written by Wei-dajie. [Pic of a card saying; "Smell this loser" in crooked handwriting.]
 - Feng Jing (Blue Rain): @Fang Rui V Exactly what I'm searching for. We'll take a bulk, thank you.
 - Fang Rui V: Thank you for your patronage! ^w^

Su Mucheng fixed her hair as she looked in the mirror for a few seconds when she started her stream using her phone, she then looked back at her screen which displayed her front camera and fixed her bangs again before she was satisfied.

"Hello, everyone. Su Mucheng here, long time no see~" She smiled sweetly as the comments flashed quickly courtesy of her fans. "I was actually gonna stream myself playing Glory, but from the latest poll I started, you guys seem more excited about a tour around the clubhouse instead. So, I thought, hey, I'll let you meet my beautiful and handsome teammates too."

- "Goddess! You're back!" -Launching My Heart To You
- "Su Mucheng! Su Mucheng cheng! <3" -Orange Is My Favourite Colour
- "A tour and an introduction? Happy is mostly girls, right?" —Passing To Buy Soysauce

• "Hehe, we're seeing many pretty girls today~" -Red Flowers In Blossoms

"Okay, just wait—"

"Ow- fuck." Fang Rui tripped behind the camera.

"RuiRui, keep it PG-rated while I'm livestreaming, please," Su Mucheng looked at the younger girl.

"Ow- frick," Fang Rui re-iterated. "You're livestreaming?" she bounced over.

"Yes. Everyone, you already know this pretty girl. Fang Rui, our Qi Master, say hello~" Su Mucheng cheerfully said as Fang Rui squeezed into the frame by hugging her.

"Hello, everyone~ muah!" Fang Rui was adept in acting cute and innocent, had it not been for her dirty playstyle as a Thief, many would have been deceived. Till now, some people even still vehemently denied that she wasn't innocent in real life and argued that the game was the game, not real life's personality.

Seeing the barrage of comments complimenting how cute she was, Fang Rui smirked inside. She still got it.

"I'm going to tour around the place," Su Mucheng told her.

"Oh? I'll accompany you, then," Fang Rui said.

"Ohoho, you are very welcome to do so," Su Mucheng chuckled. "Where should we go first, RuiRui?"

"The main living area? The girls gathered there," Fang Rui said.

"We're taking out the big fish first?" Su Mucheng smiled. "How is it, guys? You want to meet my girls?"

- "Bring out the girls!" –CuteGirlsHunter
- "Whoooohooo!" -Practicing And Failing Abstinence

Su Mucheng flicked her hair. "There's nothing really interesting here. Oh, if you follow this corridor, you can find the living place for the guild's staff. The place is divided for the guild's people on one side, and the team's living place on the other, it's connected by this corridor and another one in the kitchen. I'll show you that later, first, let's greet the girls."

Su Mucheng and Fang Rui went to the main living area where, true to Fang Rui's words, the girls gathered. They seemed to be enjoying some desserts that Chen Guo brought.

"What are you guys eating?!" Su Mucheng gasped. "Not calling me?" she pouted.

"MuMu!" Chen Guo waved happily. "We were just wondering where you are, care for some?"

"I'm livestreaming, by the way," Su Mucheng said. "Mind for a recording?"

"Sure, sure," Chen Guo said after a furtive glance to the rest of the team.

- "Mucheng is called MuMu by her friends!!!" -Laying Down
- "Hehe, MuMu, MuMu, so cute~" -Shots Fired
- "The boss lady is very beautiful too! Is she single *heh*" -Local Tyrant#3
- "MuMu, introduce her to us!" -Small Emperor

"Alright, introduce yourself. Starting from GuoGuo," Su Mucheng said. "This is our beautiful boss, who is so kind to help gather us all here."

"Hi!" Chen Guo smiled to the camera. "Please keep supporting Happy!" she was pleased. She had learned how to be a good boss all this summer for the sake of supporting her idols, Ye Xiu and Su Mucheng, it did not go in vain.

"Oooh! Dependable boss lady!" Fang Rui whistled.

"Then, the second official member. Our beautiful fierce Battle Mage," Su Mucheng directed the camera to Tang Rou who smiled beautifully.

"Tang Rou, nice to meet you all."

"Dignified!" Fang Rui nodded in acknowledgment.

- "This one's level is also high-spec, ah! Seeing Tang Rou from close look like this makes her look even more beautiful!"
- "Need to know Tang Rou's hair routine. Her short hair is gorgeous."
- "The upcoming Battle Goddess? She Goddess Ye's new successor, right?"

They all did an introduction, the only one who weren't there was An Wenyi, Wei Chen, Ye Xiu and Ye Qiu. Regardless, Su Mucheng was pretty satisfied with the result of today's livestream. "I would also like to make an announcement that team Happy's members will have their own livestream regarding Glory. I'll post the official link to our weibo later, it's just been made. Later, you guys will be informed when one of us is doing a livestream." Su Mucheng was a professional at this, she smoothly integrated her team's plan for livestreaming and hyped up her fans for the livestream.

"I will do a stream too, so watch it, okay?" Fang Rui blinked innocently to the camera.

Su Mucheng smiled, "Now, I'll show you the kitchen. First—"

"Ahahahahahaha!!!"

Both Su Mucheng and Fang Rui paused and looked at each other. They shared a tacit understanding and immediately walked to the source. They stopped before a door, the shared room of Ye Xiu and Wei Chen prior, now it housed the twins and Wei Chen. Luckily, the room was bigger than the average room in this clubhouse so there was no complain at all from the women sharing the room.

Fang Rui knocked the door. "What's going on there?"

The laughters continued.

"Can I come in? You guys are not doing anything immoral in the broad daylight, right?" Fang Rui directly opened the door since Su Mucheng was using her front camera.

When Su Mucheng saw the situation inside was safe enough, she switched back to the main camera.

- "What's going on?" -Furry Shawl Business.
- "Goddess Ye is really a twin!" -Simping for Goddess Ye.
- "Who is that rolling on the floor?" -RuiRui's Number One Fan.
- "BOSS WEIIIIIII!!!!" -BlueRainForever
- "Thank God! I'm staying for the whole livestream and really saw Boss Wei in it!" Waiting For The First Lady Captain.

From the comment, Su Mucheng can see a few Blue Rain's old fans or perhaps old staff were in it but she paid them no mind.

"What's going on?" Fang Rui pouted. "C'mon! I don't like to be in the dark!"

Wei Chen giggled uncontrollably as Ye Xiu sighed. "It's one of the possible commercial contract for the team—"

"Hahahahaha!!!" Wei Chen wheezed on the floor as she held her sides.

"What's so funny about it?" Su Mucheng asked.

"It's fucking funny!" Wei Chen shrilled in laughter.

"Keep it PG, please," Su Mucheng said, but she didn't seem to be fazed.

Wei Chen kept on laughing. She then ceased her laughter and beckoned Fang Rui close. Fang Rui went closer and Wei Chen showed her a paper.

Fang Rui took a look and collapsed into a fit of giggles right a top Wei Chen who resumed laughing happily now she had a partner to laugh. The two grown adult women didn't have a qualm in rolling around on the floor, laughing madly as sometimes they paused to look at the piece of paper.

- "I'm so blessed. Today, I actually saw two girls atop one another laughing so happily"

 -Love Comes In Many Shapes of Forms
- "I'm always a guy who likes girly and soft type but damn if seeing Fang Rui and lady Wei didn't give me some kind of sweet feelings. Mucheng! Forgive this unfaithful husband of yours!" —It's the Little Thing.
- "HEY! Upstairs, Su Mucheng is mine! We're getting our red books later this month!" Su Mucheng's Husband.
- "What's in the paper?" –Yu Wenzhou V

"Big Beauty! Please rethink of your action!" Fang Rui laughed as she sprawled herself on Ye Xiu's crossed legs.

"Ahahahahaha! I'm imagining her face on the box now! Hahahaha!" Wei Chen held her chest. "Ha- owh, my chest hurts." She ran out of breath as she laid there soundlessly then like a starfish.

Su Mucheng walked forward and snatched the paper to look for herself. The camera didn't catch anything as she didn't show it. She read it and guffawed.

Su Mucheng switched back to the front camera as she put away the paper. She smiled a bit, but there was a crack on her expression. "For now, let's cut off the touring. Stay tune for part two!"

Troubling Rain: @Dancing Rain Does that mean Boss Wei will also do a livestream? I know Ye-jie will, she's the captain. But Boss Wei will also do it, right? Fine! I will reluctantly follow your official team's account know this is because I'm a very supportive friend, okay? You should be moved!

Swoksaar: I wonder when this will start?

Dancing Rain: As soon as possible 'w' The first one doing so will be my Xiu-jie and Qiu-xiaojie.

Sobbing Ghost: Qiu-xiaojie? My, Sis Ye's little sister seems to have a temper~

Dancing Rain: Not at all, she's nice. She just didn't like to be called 'jie' without it being 'xiaojie'

Carving Ghost: (a)Sobbing Ghost What do you know about women's fragile hearts.

Windy Rain: Can't just call her QiuQiu?

Dancing Rain: She said 'QiuQiu' makes her feel uneasy. She insisted it sounds like 'ball' even though it certainly doesn't.

Windy Rain: :3 she sounds like a sweetheart. Qiu-xiaojie it is.

Dazzling Hundred Blossoms: @Dancing Rain What's with that convo around the end of your livestream?

Dancing Rain: It's just a hilarious contract that the team is weighing to accept.

Vaccaria: What's so hilarious about it?

Dancing Rain: It's a contract for a green tea brand.

Dazzling Hundred Blossoms: ...

Cloud Piercer:	
Vaccaria:	
Dark Thunder:	
One Autumn Leaf:	
Swoksaar:	

Troubling Rain: No wonder Boss Wei were laughing silly. She would find that hilarious.

Sobbing Ghost: PFFFTTT Green Tea---!

Carving Ghost: Didn't Excellent Era also have a deal with green tea brand too back then?

Dancing Rain: Yeah. But Xiu-jie didn't have to show her face. Now she did, of course she's expected to have her face used on the brand.

Windy Rain: Are you guys accepting it?

Dancing Rain: Sigh, they're playing around with it right now. Wei-dajie seems to be really fond of it even though she's the only one who doesn't have to do commercials.

Soul Speaker: WHAT?! WHY?! The previous lady captain would do great as a model! Don't snub her out! She's so sexy it's a waste if she doesn't do any commercial! T_T

Dancing Rain: Not snubbing -3- She's the richest member of Happy as of now. She's basically a millionaire, she can do whatever she pleases.

Troubling Rain: Wait, what? She's rich?! That woman broke as hell before, how is she rich now?!

Troubling Rain: I mean, good for her. But still! A millionaire?! Where did she get that money!? What is she working as after Blue Rain?! Why she never called me to treat me or anything?! She PROMISED me to buy me a ramen if she's rich enough!

Peaceful Hermit: Wait, that's all you want?

Chapter End Notes

*Green Tea: Chinese derogatory slangs for "Bitch" If you guys read many chinese novels, you would have seen this term countless of times. It's either this or White Lotus. But from what I observe, Green Tea is for women who are more open of their

rottenness, whereas White Lotus is those who pretend to be weak while manipulating other people.

*Dajie: Big Sister. Usually the oldest one in the circle, perhaps? Xiaojie: Literally translated to be Little Big Sister, usually translated as "Young Miss" as ladies from prominent family are called that. A flattering way of address for a woman. For notes: The only ones who got addressed as 'Jie' in this team are only Ye Xiu, Wei Chen, and Ye Qiu. The rest insists to not do it. As you can see, Tang Rou is much younger than Chen Guo but she calls her 'GuoGuo' with her permission. Wei Chen didn't care, Ye Xiu couldn't care less, Ye Qiu just doesn't like her nickname.

Chapter 4

Chapter Notes

See the end of the chapter for notes

"Hello, this is the captain speaking," Ye Xiu sat down on her gaming chair and flicked her hair behind her shoulder. "As announced yesterday by the official Weibo account, today, I'll be in charge of the live-stream... Bun, what did I say about tying up your shirt to reveal your stomach like that? Where were we again?" Ye Xiu got distracted for a bit at someone off camera before recovering smoothly.

- "Goddess Ye is so calm"
- "Goddess Ye has a goddess temperament."
- "I want Goddess Ye to trample me."
- "Her voice is uuuugggghhhhhhhh!!!!"

"Mucheng's livestream was cut short last time so she has yet to make a full QnA session. I'm here to state that frankly, we're in lack of money," Ye Xiu said bluntly. "It turns out, sustaining a team full of girls is a bit different than with guys. I gotta be sterner, but currently we're fixing the damage. So you'll see a lot from us for the remaining of summer."

- "Goddess, are you still going to stream after summer?"
- "Please stream after summer too!
- "Goddess Ye, please trample me."
- "I'm donating! Good luck, goddess Ye! Be gentler to your teammates;)

"Performing in the tournament is going to be a busy activity. I don't think we're going to be free enough to livestream. But perhaps, the other will do some miscellaneous things when they want it." Ye Xiu logged into Glory before turning her head. "Where are you?"

"It's a bit strange, I can't seem to turn on the camera..." Ye Qiu bit her lips.

"Yifan, your Sister Qiu doesn't know how to connect the camera," Ye Xiu called out for the semi-professional in-camera setting within the team. "Where was I? Oh yes, we're also live streaming according to themes. Mucheng has her own theme. My current theme is a livestream to teach my darling sister how to Glory."

Another rectangle appeared on the screen with two girls looking cluelessly at the screen.

Qiao Yifan smiled. "There you go."

"Thank you," Ye Qiu said sincerely and the younger girl disappeared from the camera.

- "That's Qiao Yifan! She's gotten cuter since I saw her!"
- "Goddess Ye's SISTER!!!!"
- "TWIN SISTERS!!!"
- "I didn't expect Goddess Ye's partner for her stream is her twin sister. All Hail."

• "I love her hairstyle!"

"Say hello, Ye Qiu," Ye Xiu smiled.

"Hello," Ye Qiu struggled. "I'm Ye Qiu. The younger twin."

"As you all know, I've used her name for a long time due to One Autumn Leaf. Don't mix us up or I'll dislike you," Ye Xiu smiled leisurely as she moved her character. "She's going to play Sharpshooter. She has been training for this in the last few weeks so don't be too harsh on her or I'll dislike you too."

- "AH! The overprotectiveness!"
- "Please step on me!"
- "Goddess Ye acting like a real sister to someone!"
- "What should we call the little sister? 'Ye Qiu' sounds like a misunderstanding waiting to happen."
- "I hereby announce that the little sister will be called Ye-xiaomei."
- "Xiaomei, Xiaomei, she's going to be the fanbase's little sister! I thought that would fall on Yifan?"
- "Xiaomei is a bit reserved, isn't she?"

Ye Qiu's lips twitched. "Please don't call me xiaomei. I'm the same age as my sister," in case that's not obvious enough.

"Xiaojie, Xiaomei, it doesn't matter," Ye Xiu said carelessly. "Okay, are you ready now? The guys from the guild are already waiting."

"I'm on my way," Ye Qiu said.

Eventually, Ye Qiu's character reached her destination and the viewers could see her female Sharpshooter's name from Ye Xiu's screen.

- "Paulownia Autumn Leaf! AAAAAAAAAAAAA It even has the same typo as One Autumn Leaf!"
- "I'm crying. That is so cute."
- "Yi Ye Zhi Qiu and Tong Ye Zhi Qiu. Siblings!"
- "What's with this pandering? Ye Qiu, or Ye Xiu, you have left Excellent Era and ruined it! You have no right to act cutesy with the name."
- "Upstairs, shut up."
- "^Where do you live? Let's fight."
- "^^Obviously, it was EE's own mistake in management, why are you blaming my goddess? It's not Goddess Ye's fault that EE's management is so shitty that it can't even stay in the league even after recruiting SUN XIANG."
- "Can't believe nowadays people could be so brainless in defending their team. Just so you know, if it had not because Ye Xiu, EE wouldn't even be a team. She stayed there and got not recognition, she left and you guys got mad, accusing her of being ungrateful?"
- "Why do you only show your face after leaving EE? Do you hate EE that much? Ugh, suddenly being so active in showing your face like this, can't wait to flaunt it?"

- "Ugh, these haters!"
- "If you 'love' One Autumn Leaf that much, why leaving? I was a fan of yours but I just got disappointed again and again. This is the last straw."

Ye Xiu didn't care about the war in the comment, she was used to it. However, Ye Qiu was *not* used to it. The younger visibly frowned.

"Who cares about your last straw?" Ye Qiu blurted out. "This team doesn't need a fan like you. My sister doesn't need a fan like you who only knows how to judge things from the surface."

Ye Xiu paused. "Meimei," she called out.

"What's wrong with the name? MuMu gave it to me as a tribute to my sister. Do you have complaints about it? Well, your complaints mean nothing. Because you didn't come up with it, because you didn't own *anything* except for your useless opinion."

Several members of Happy who were in the practice room stopped and looked over slowly.

"Of all people in the world, the one who can use and reminisce this memory is my sister and MuMu, the rest of you are just some faceless strangers." Ye Qiu glared. "Both One Autumn Leaf and Paulownia Autumn Leaf have MY name in them. I have the right to name my character whatever I wanted."

Ye Xiu rubbed her temple, sweating a little.

"If you don't like it, why are you still here? Scram. I don't care if you're EE's fans or One Autumn Leaf's fans. That time has passed, my sister is here to win and not to cater to you all about loyalty to those who betray her first."

"Holy shit, the young miss is angry," Wei Chen clicked her tongue in astonishment.

"You tell them, sis! Tell 'em!" Fang Rui yelled so her voice could be captured by the mic and transmitted to the livestream.

- "... That is so HOT!"
- "Haters gonna hate. Who tf cares if your broken team had a character named 'One Autumn Leaf'? Sis is right. Her name is Ye Qiu, she could use both!"
- "F ME! Our Xiaomei is so charming, ah! Too handsome! Are we sure we're calling her 'xiaomei'? Her temper is not meek!"
- "Young miss! What a temper of a young miss! I'm calling her Young Miss from now on!"
- "Young miss! Please step on me!
- "Young miss! Please berate me!"
- "Young miss, ignore them all. These thirsty M are getting out of hands."
- "I'll pay to get insulted by the women of Happy, tbh..."
- "Goddess Ye, will there be a request session?"

"You guys are ridiculous," Ye Xiu shook her head. She truly thought that the fans were joking around. "Meimei, just leave those people alone. The more you react to them, the more shameless they are."

"But..." Ye Qiu pouted.

"It's fine, it's always like this. As the old saying goes; You don't have to prove yourself, those who hate you won't believe it, those who love you won't need it." Ye Xiu said tenderly. The comments immediately turned mellow, praising Ye Xiu for her steadfastness. "On the other hand, those trolls will just be energized if we respond to them. After all, it's rare to get the attention of a beauty in real life for them, so they have to resort to being noticed online even with hatred."

"Oh," Ye Qiu nodded.

- "Captain Ye is so savage, ah."
- "STAB STAB STAB!"
- "Enough, enough, Goddess Ye! They're already dead, don't stab them anymore!"
- "Hello? Police uncle? I'd like to report an absolute slaughter."
- "DAMN! Never see it that way! I've been simping for years and rarely get noticed.

 These people posted hate and Xiaojie responded to them! I'm jealous! I'm jealous!"
- "Xiaojieeeeeeee! Shall I post a hate comment too so you can notice me and talk to me?! Ah, but I can't bear to scold any of you!"
- Ding! Have Some Shame! Has just sent 1000 Yuan!

"Oh? We have the first donator here," Ye Xiu blinked. "Have Some Shame, thank you. Haha, that's an interesting name."

- "!!!!!!!" -Just Passing By
- "My goddess just chuckled!" -My Voyage Will Not End
- "Damn you! Have some Shame! Damn you!" -Let's Go
- "Hehehehehehehel! Get on my level you, plebs! Also, thank you Goddess Ye, I think my name is interesting too" —**Have Some Shame!**
- "^ HAVE SOME SHAME, YOU!" -Falling For The Ye's
- "GODDESS, PLEASE LAUGH SOME MORE!" –Step On Me
- Ding! Enchanting Smile has just sent 2000 Yuan!
- Ding! Your Smile Is Beautiful has just sent 5000 Yuan!
- Ding! Step On Me has just sent 5000 Yuan!
- Ding! Little Little Zhou has just sent 50,000 Yuan!

"Don't you think it's a bit overkill to have them both in one stream?" Chen Guo said.

"What can be done? They're twins and Xiu-jie is the 'famous' one. Qiu-xiaojie is still building up her fame, after all," Su Mucheng said wisely.

"With this, it opens more possibility for sliding in our new possible duo once we join the alliance, right?" Luo Ji said as she pushed up her glasses calculatingly.

"We can also sell more if they appear more," Su Mucheng said. "Have you seen Misty Rain's duo Sharpshooters? Well, they'll be left in the dust if our pair of twins finally showed their real strength." After all, what synchronization could two sharpshooters have rather than two different classes? Misty Rain was too unwise to get them into the team when they already have Windy Rain, another long-range fighter.

The idea of duo Sharpshooters was not that far-fetched. But to insist on having them with another long-range on the stage was just plain stupid.

Chu Yunxiu spent the rest of Season 9 confiding to Su Mucheng about her team's line-up and how many headaches she sustained. If only...

Su Mucheng shook her head furiously, her hair almost whipped to Wei Chen's face.

"What the hell was that?" Wei Chen said.

"No, I was just getting some wild ideas," Su Mucheng said and then tutted to Wei Chen. "Five yuan to the jar, Wei-dajie."

"Fuck..."

"That's another five yuan," Chen Guo piped in disapprovingly.

"Hiii~ We meet again!" Fang Rui beamed to the camera as she twirled her hair back. "Today, I'll be live streaming with my eldest sister and ex-captain. Wei Chen!"

Fang Rui clapped alone before she glared at the person off-camera. "Turn on your camera, Wei-jie."

"Why?" Someone said off-camera.

"Ugh," Fang Rui reached out and turned on the second camera. Another box appeared in the livestream for the co-host which displayed an annoyed pretty lady whose aura oozed maturity. "There you go. Wei Chen, everybody!" Fang Rui re-introduced.

- "MADAAAAMMMM!!!" Feeling Blue
- "It's Blue Rain's first captain, right? Dang, she's a beauty!" Tears shed in Autumn
- "T T #BlessedY'All" Madam Wei's dog
- "She's here!" -Rain Blue
- "The beautiful Warlock!!!!" Always Remember
- "RuiRui is also pretty today!" Let There Be Light

"Today, we'll be live streaming ourselves playing Glory too, but it will be boring to just do that, right?" Fang Rui smiled. "So we're having a minigame. Whoever uses profanity has to fill the swear jar. Whoever spent more money will be wearing Sailor Moon cosplay in the first round of tournament."

Wei Chen almost balked and turned to gaze at Fang Rui in shock. "I never heard about this!"

"You have now," Fang Rui said calmly.

"I don't accept," Wei Chen glared.

"Oh, ho, didn't know you're a chicken," Fang Rui smirked. "I dare to do this and you don't? Tsk, tsk, it seemed like Senior Jing lied to me about you being a daring woman."

"That's the first mistake you make, never believe in anything Blue Rain's old guys said," Wei Chen said confidently.

- "HEY!!! We're watching the stream too, you know?!" Please let us see the women
- "Ah, she insulted me, but why don't I feel offended?" Madam Wei's Foot Mat
- "She called us 'Old Guys'! Today I'm very blessed!" Waiting for her
- "This is a very big misunderstanding. Here, Blue Rain's senior members' truthfulness have all been dedicated to the first captain, so we can only lie to others." **Source; Trust Me**
- "Acknowledge ME MADAM!!!" -Praying Everyday for Madam

"Tsk, tsk, instead of acknowledging your flaw outright, you blamed a man who isn't even here?" Fang Rui tutted.

- "I'm here. I'm here. What's up? I'm the real Fang Shijing. Little Rui, let the captain blame me." —Shijing Fang
- "LMAO, Fang Rui is baiting as always." -Tears of Joy
- "Girls, please don't fight." -Self Health
- "Did anyone just see someone claiming he's Fang Shijing just now?" What Am I Watching Next?

"Bawk, bawk," Fang Rui mocked in annoyance. "Even though I already bought the cosplay with my own money and dared myself to bet, you don't even dare? Where's all your grandeur in betting half of your money on who's to win last season?"

"You did WHAT?!" Someone exclaimed from the background.

Wei Chen flinched and shushed Fang Rui frantically. "I was just kidding! I never put any bet!" Wei Chen yelled to Chen Guo who glared at her with a look that said 'You better not be!'

"Come on, Wei-jie. You're not fun. If you don't want to do this, our stream will lose out to the twins!" Fang Rui whined. "I don't want to lose."

"But why Sailor Moon cosplay!?" Wei Chen exclaimed.

"Because... If it's money, I'm pretty broke. Aaaaand, it's just won't be interesting," Fang Rui twirled her hair. "Come on, do you dare or not?"

Wei Chen scowled.

"Wei-jieeee, huft," Fang Rui huffed. "Chicken. If we ever get one, why don't you do some advertisement for chickens?"

"Ehem!" Su Mucheng cleared her throat off camera. She mouthed, "Zhou Zekai." And Fang Rui straightened.

"I didn't mean you, Zhou Zekai. I respect Zhou Zekai, my fellow Season 5's debutant. You're a delicious, fine, piece of a ma—chicken. I mean, the chicken is delicious and fine, Zhou Zekai did a good job advertising it," Fang Rui amended around the end.

- "That's pretty accurate. Zhou Zekai is a f***ing chicken." -Blue Rain4Ever
- "LMAO Chicken Zhou Zekai!" -Tower Of Truth
- "Rui is as blunt as always" BR's RnD
- "I have a feeling there are so many Blue Rain's supporters here." –**Howling For**RuiRui
- "\Upstairs, were you blind or just that dense? Since the very start it had been flooded by Blue Rain's supporters!"—Goddess Ye, Step On Me

"If you lose, you'll wear that?" Wei Chen glanced sharply at Fang Rui.

"My vow is the most honest vow," Fang Rui's eyes sparkled innocently.

"Deal. But if I win, I want you to pose for the camera in Sailor Moon pose."

"Bargaining hard, but I accept that extra step," Fang Rui nodded.

Wei Chen settled down in annoyance. "Why the fuck are we doing this? Didn't the two Ye's already earned enough last time?!" Wei Chen exclaimed.

"Ah, ah, ah," Fang Rui wiggled her forefinger. "You said a no-no word. Keep it PG and..." Fang Rui pulled out the infamed swear jar. "Five yuan."

Wei Chen groaned and took out a five yuan bill from her pockets. Because of how frequent she broke the rule, she had started to carry a bunch of five yuan bills with her even inside the dorm.

Fang Rui beamed. "As you have said, the twins' livestream last time was a big success. You guys are awesome, thank you~" She winked to the camera. "But since we have promised the entire team will do this, it will be unfair to stop at the twins."

- "Yeah, yeah, unfair to the twins. Keep it going!" -Keep it COMING
- "SAILOR MOON COSPLAY! SAILOR MOON COSPLAY!" -My Wish Comes True
- "Hopefully the live streaming service's moderators wouldn't notice this small minigame and banned it halfway..." —Love It Like It Hurts
- "BOSS WEI! BOSS WEI! BOSS WEI!!! LOOK HERE< LOOK HERE!!!! LOOK HERE!!! I'M HERE!! WHERE'S MY RAMEN!!!" –Little Brother Sky
- "RAMEN!" –Little Brother Sky
- "RAMEN!" –Little Brother Sky
- "RAMEN!" -Little Brother Sky
- "Damn, who is this Little Brother Sky?!" -Because I Like You
- "Bot?" -Christmas Rose

• "You are bot, your whole family is bot your a shame damn bot your sister is bot your father is bot your mom is bot your whole existence is a bot who are you saying bot? HUH!? Botmaster! Botmaster botmaster"—Little Brother Sky

"Little Cheng, can you ban this bot?" Wei Chen asked expressionlessly to the Livestream moderator.

Su Mucheng happily muted the offending undercover Sword Saint.

- "So long, Little Brother Sky." –XiJingXu
- "Harsh..." Have you forgotten our good memories
- "LMAO, merciless as always, Boss Wei." -Blue Tears

Fang Rui snickered slightly. "Alright, let's play." Her eyes gleamed. "Wei-jie, please curse when I'm actually ready to press your mute button, kay?"

"Shut the f- ugh. Shut up, Fang Rui," Wei Chen bit her tongue. She already made a mistake once and gave Fang Rui an advantage, she couldn't do it again. Wei Chen eyed the swear jar which only contained one five yuan bill, she intended to keep it that way.

"My, what a scary look," Fang Rui smirked when she saw Wei Chen's furrowed brows.

- "Still beautiful, though."
- "Yeah."
- "I hope she glares at me like that every day."

"You'll lose this," Wei Chen said.

- "Go Boss Wei! Go!" -Ban Me Again I Dare You
- "Madam, you can do this!" -Xiao Song
- Blue Tears Has Donated 5,000 Yuan!
- Little Yu Has Donated 10,000 Yuan!
- "Fight on ^_^" **–Little Yu**

Fang Rui chuckled, "Say that to me when I'm not currently winning."

- "Little Fang, you got this!" -Following RuiRui
- "RuiRui!!!" -On Top Howling Hill
- Lin Jingyan Has Donated 10,000 Yuan!
- "Good luck:)" –Lin Jingyan

Su Mucheng giggled. "It's good to see you guys are this fired up."

Tang Rou swirled the drink in her glass and took a sip calmly. "Who do you think will lose?"

"Statistic says it's Wei-dajie," Luo Ji pushed back her glasses.

"So, this is why there's a package of Sailor Moon cosplay mailed in this morning?" An Wenyi's eyes twitched.

Chen Guo sighed in exasperation, not even she could control them in their reckless spending and pranks on each other.

Ye Xiu couldn't comment on anything since it didn't seem the team's fund was going anywhere, so suffice to say Fang Rui probably spent her own money to buy it.

She raised the sailor uniform high to inspect it and arched an eyebrow. "Well, at least I can assure you this is the right size for Wei Chen."

Mo Fan shook her head in the background, she once again questioned why she was still here in the team.

"Today's livestream will be an interactive one," Tang Rou said in a straightforward manner after introducing herself. "We'll open a room in the Arena and everyone is free to challenge us and be a part of our training regimen."

Tang Rou let the chat became lively as she made a room in the arena.

"BaoBao and I will have two separate rooms, you all can challenge us. We'll count the win, those who have the most victory will win this session," Tang Rou said. "Is that easy enough for you, BaoBao?"

"Yup!" Steamed Bun nodded. "Come at me, bro! I'll beat everyone up!" she cheered.

Tang Rou smiled. "The loser will be punished. Let's have fun today, and I thank you for your patronage, I'm not that adept at this kind of thing but my elder sisters trust me to lead this livestream session so don't be mad if I sometimes forget to interact with the livestream."

- "How can I get mad at that pretty face?"
- "How can we get mad at you?"
- "Who dares to get mad at you? Laozi will wipe the floor with them."
- "No one will be mad at you, I'll kick them."
- "I also have a fetish to be ignored, so it's a win-win to me."
- "The WELL respected gangsta-like girl and the elegant pretty girl? I like this combination."
- "So, Steamed Bun Invasion is hotter than I expected."
- "Damn! We can fight them in the arena like this? I FINALLY CAN GET STEPPED ON!!!"
- "Guys, I'm in dilemma, do I want to get stepped on by Bao-jie or Tang-jie? This is really hard."

"Please be serious," Tang Rou said. "I don't want an easy win. Do your best." She then smiled beautifully at the camera. "I'll be waiting for you."

"Come to my room if you're free," Steamed Bun exclaimed eagerly.

- "*HEAVY BREATHING*"
- "TO BE OR NOT TO BE?! THAT IS THE QUESTION."

- "Is that a fanservice? Idc, that's a fanservice to me! It's going to be in my collection!"
- "Bao Rongxing's statement, aaaaahhhh, I always thought the word 'room' for arena specified enclosed space is a bit too suggestive!"
- "Tang Rou smiled! Tang Rou smiled at me! I can die in peace now."
- "Wait for me, darlings! I'm on my way to the arena! I'll do my best to go out in the most respectable way!"

"For a rookie, she actually knows her way with words," Fang Rui commented as she watched the two from the corner.

"Being the heiress requires that much," Ye Qiu responded as she twisted Fang Rui's hair into a bun and held it up with a single hair stick. "You have to have a decent speaking skill both in mandarin and english. If you can't seize the initiative, you'll get pushed around by business rivals. You can't show a single second of hesitation or reluctance or people will know when and where to attack."

"Sounds tough," Qiao Yifan's admiration turned into pity.

"It's not if you're used to it," Ye Qiu said.

Qiao Yifan smiled restrainedly. "I could never. That's why it's tough. I admire people who immediately know what to say in front of others or a crowd. I'm... too shy for my own good."

Ye Qiu patted Qiao Yifan's head. "Everything can be learned. I'll help you to build some confidence," she smiled. "You'll be much more confident that if you have any guy you like, you can just go up to him and tell him that you like him."

Qiao Yifan blushed. "Sister Qiu!"

"Hehh?" Fang Rui craned her neck, smirking mischievously. "Yifan already has a crush? Here I am thinking of introducing you to some cute guys I know."

"RuiRui! I... I don't have- There's no one!" Qiao Yifan panicked. In her fluster, she suddenly recalled her close friend in Tiny Herb and her face burned even more.

"Ooohh, you liiiiiiike~ someone~" Fang Rui giggled. "I wonder who~?"

"Isn't it that kid from Tiny Herb? The Witch? Gao Yingjie, isn't it?" An Wenyi said bluntly. "You guys looked really close in the twenty-people dungeon."

"**I**—"

Fang Rui straightened as her gossip senses went haywire. "You mean that painfully shy kid? Wang Jiexi's successor?"

Qiao Yifan covered her face that felt hotter than before. "No..." she denied meekly.

"Alright, stop teasing Yifan," Ye Qiu cut Fang Rui off. "Have some shame, a woman like you shouldn't tease a young girl's crush."

"Who's teasing?" Fang Rui pouted. "Fanfan, if you have any question regarding how to seduce him, come to me. I'm very experienced in seducing a shy guy," she smirked at the thought of her own boyfriend and the time before they started going out. Lin Jingyan was a stubborn mule who refused to take her seriously until she reached eighteen, and even then it took a lot of effort on Fang Rui's side.

When she heard that Qiao Yifan blushed even more. "C-can we just watch how RouRou and BaoBao do with the livestream?"

"The winner is... Tang Rou! Sorry Bun, you lost by a few matches," Su Mucheng smiled at Steamed Bun who pouted in disappointment before turning cheerful again when everyone consoled her about it.

"Ah, but there's a punishment, isn't it?" Steamed Bun pouted again

"Yup! The penalty for the loser is... dance! Whatever dance you can do," Su Mucheng said. "Please do it for two minutes straight, and please choose a song that won't be copyrighted."

Wei Chen cackled as she tossed a peeled melon seed into her mouth. "This will be gold."

"Just dance as you please, Bun. No need to get pressured," Ye Xiu said.

"Hey, I can dance!" Bun brightened up when she heard that. "I love dancing!"

"Really?" Wei Chen smiled languidly. "Then, entertain lao niang."

Steamed Bun seemed to be quite excited to show off her skill. She browsed her phone and picked up a song before putting it on the table.

"Okay, ready? One, two, three!" Steamed Bun kicked the air at the same time the music's starting beat dropped and dip down to the floor before jumping up to the air with mere tip of her toes. She stood up straight, before dropping back, doing a perfect split.

Su Mucheng dropped her portion of melon seeds.

Steamed Bun then put her hand on the ground before spinning herself, feet swinging in the air furiously.

Everyone was absolutely in shock.

- "My heart dropped at the same time she dropped!"
- "Holy shit, sister!"
- "That split is everything."
- "I... I think I'm in love."
- "What long legs... QAQ"
- "OoO"
- "O O"
- "O O"
- "OTZ I bow down to one athletic queen."

- "My soul almost left my body."
- "Holy—Look at her GO!!!"
- Eating Steamed Bun While Raining Has Donated 5000 Yuan!
- World Dancer Has Donated 10,000 Yuan!

Two minutes later, Steamed Bun ended the dance by jumping and spinning in the air, dropping to her knee with her hand thrusting out a peace sign. She then beamed as she got up, she looked out of breath, but barely breaking a sweat.

""Holy shit,"" Wei Chen and Ye Xiu cursed at the same time.

"Amazing!" Su Mucheng clapped idolizingly. "So talented!"

"That was fascinating, Bun," Tang Rou clapped along.

"How could you be that sporty?" Luo Ji's glasses almost cracked.

"Good thing you tucked your shirt in," An Wenyi observed.

"I didn't know you could do that!" Chen Guo cried out in amazement.

"That was so amazing, Bun!" Qiao Yifan's face was red in astonishment and amazement.

"My jaw literally dropped just now," Fang Rui clapped too.

"No wonder you're so fit," Ye Qiu tilted her head.

"Cough! I used to be able to do that too," Wei Chen cleared her throat and claimed as she put in a five yuan bill on the nearby swear jar.

Ye Xiu snorted as she, too, put a five yuan bill into the jar. "As if."

"Ye Xiu, shut up. I know a thing or two about dancing, what about you? You gaming addict!"

"Hey, I danced *ballet* before, okay? I know a thing or two about dancing as well," Ye Xiu shot back.

"Then, are you two going to dance with me?" Steamed Bun asked in excitement.

"Ballet is slow, Bun. I don't think we're in the same flow," Ye Xiu hastily said. She slapped a hand over Ye Qiu's mouth when she wanted to interject otherwise.

"I'm thirty this year, I'll break something if I try something like that," Wei Chen said. "But I used to be able to do that," she said again coolly and everyone rolled their eyes.

"Hello, I'm Qiao Yifan," Qiao Yifan introduced herself robotically with a blush.

"I'm An Wenyi," An Wenyi said as he rolled up his sleeves. "Since the professional tournament is going to start soon, the team has been very busy for a livestream so the captain

stopped it from continuing and put more focus on training and developing the team. That's why you haven't heard from us for a very long time."

- "Ah, I forgot Happy has one male member. I was just wondering who that man is."
- "Understandable. The time is ticking, after all."
- "Well, if Goddess Ye was the one who ordered it. I can't say anything."
- "Qiao Yifan is as cute as always."
- "Our team's xiaomei?"
- "Our team's youngest~"

"I don't feel comfortable to be the only one who didn't do it, so I do this," Qiao Yifan said shyly. "I'm the cook today, so I'll livestream myself cooking. Sorry if some of you expect gaming content... Captain said showing everything we got in livestream might not be an entirely good idea." she smiled guiltily.

- "Don't apologize for what the captain had ordered."
- "It's fine. If Goddess Ye said so, who are we to demand more?"
- "Keep focusing on your training~"
- "GG, Fanfan!"

"Thank you," Qiao Yifan smiled shyly. "I don't actually know how to do this, so please don't take offense if I do things wrong.

- "Ah! She's apologizing again!"
- "Little sister, it's fine! If anyone dares to scold you, this big sister will fight them!"
- "I could never accept an apology from someone this cute! > <"
- "What a white moonlight, ah!"
- "The previous ones had been really confident in their own charm but Yifan is such a sweetheart."

"I thought I heard some strange conversations."

Qiao Yifan turned around and the camera caught another girl in the doorway.

"Luo Ji," Qiao Yifan smiled at her.

"Livestreaming?" Luo Ji pushed back her glasses.

"Yes," An Wenyi said as he put all the washed vegetables on a strainer.

"Hmm, a cooking livestream, huh?" Luo Ji murmured.

"It's fine, right? Captain said we should stop live streaming the game, after all," Qiao Yifan said.

"Still helpful as always," Luo Ji tilted her head. "Want me to help?"

- "Ah! Another girl joins in!"
- "She's cute! Who is she?"
- "Isn't she Concealed Light?"

- "It's not your turn," An Wenyi pointed out.
- "Yes, but we might need more," Luo Ji said. "By the way, the team jacket has arrived—"
- "Wenyi! Wenyi- pfft—ahahahahaha!" Fang Rui barged into the kitchen with Steamed Bun, giggling rambunctiously. "Your- hehe, jacket- hihi, try it on!"
- "What... is that?" An Wenyi turned around, an expression of bewilderment.
- "Our team jacket, duh."
- "Why is the design like that?!" An Wenyi cried out.

The one that Fang Rui was holding up was a crop jacket with red sleeves and a white torso, Happy's insignia at the right side of the chest.

- "LMAO!"
- "Crop jacket?!"
- "They can do that?"
- "They can do that? +1"
- "They absolutely can do that."
- "A team of girls are just built different."
- "What about An Wenyi?"
- "LMAO, GG AN WENYI!!!"

"Mine fits!" Steamed Bun straightened, extending her arms and twirled.

- "Blessed Y'all."
- "COUGH COUGH!"
- "The design's fire, tho."
- "Love crop jackets."

"Anyway, after the water boil and seasoned, you put the diced vegetables in," Luo Ji resumed what An Wenyi was doing smoothly as Qiao Yifan directed the camera slightly off the three others.

"This isn't what I saw last time."

"Yeahhh, you see, the others like prettier things."

"Captain!" An Wenyi yelled.

"She's lying, Wenyi. Yours is not a crop jacket!" Ye Xiu's voice could be heard from the living room.

"What do you mean *mine* is not? Only mine? What are you, girls, decide on without me?!" An Wenyi yelled back.

Ye Xiu entered the kitchen then with a normal team jacket in her hand. "Not me. Boss did it. It was my fault too since I told her to arrange it to her own taste..." She sighed. "She's pretty

regretful of it, but she said she can't resist how pretty it is."

An Wenyi deflated. "Seriously?"

"Hehehehe, don't worry. There's a detachable lower part, see?" Fang Rui showed him a piece of thick fabric with a pocket and looked like it would fit right in as the lower part.

"Detachable part—*How much* does this cost?" An Wenyi narrowed his eyes.

Ye Xiu and Fang Rui looked away as Steamed Bun went straight to Luo Ji and Qiao Yifan to ask what they were cooking.

"About twice as much as the normal ones," Luo Ji answered bluntly as she turned on another stove and put another pot there while slapping Steamed Bun's hands away from the food.

"Twice as--?!" An Wenyi was speechless.

Ye Xiu smiled helplessly. "Yeah, we're kinda back to square one."

"Luo Ji, replace me for a bit," An Wenyi told Luo Ji.

"Leave it to me," Luo Ji waved.

- "This team is a mess and I love it."
- "At least it's a hot mess."
- "GG, Wenyi."
- "There are sacrifices in each worldly delights."
- "Oh God, this makes me having a flashback on living with my four sisters."
- "Look, Yifan just stood there trying to focus on the livestream."
- "LMAO, it feels like too many things is happening in one place."
- Meng Yifan Has Donated 5000 Yuan
- Passing Taoist Has Donated 2000 Yuan
- Happy's Number One Fan Has Donated 7000 Yuan
- Big Daddy Has Donated 10,000 Yuan
- "You girls are working hard :v" -Big Daddy
- "Fight on! XDD" -Meng Yifan

Qiao Yifan scratched her cheek and smiled awkwardly to the camera. "Sorry about that. Anyway, today we'll cook Qiu-xiaojie's bamboo rice and rabbit meat recipe, I'll write down the recipe later in our blog, so please pay attention and visit us." In case, it's not quite obvious.

Little Brother Sky is Huang Shaotian (Tian in his name could mean sky or day)

Also, Xiaomei is "Little Little Sister" Basically what you call a youngest sister. OR a very affectionate way to refer to someone. "Xiao" is "Little", YX often referred to many juniors as "Xiao" such as "Xiao Yu" to Yu Wenzhou, "Xiao Zhou" to Zhou Zekai. "Xiao Xiao" to Xiao Shiqin. It meant to be affectionate if not mockingly affectionate. in YX's case, I believe it's both. Calling someone 'mei' also means affectionate, such as "Sumei" or "Su-meimei" which means "(Little)Sister Su"

So, merging "Xiao" and "Mei" is a very affectionate way to refer to someone. It can be said as 'Sweetheart'? Still, it can also mean Youngest Sister. Cmiiw, but I'm pretty sure QYF is the youngest.

Chapter 5

Chapter Notes

See the end of the chapter for <u>notes</u>

A week before the first match of the new season, the teams finally saw the whole schedule for every team and Huang Shaotian was *livid*. Who decided that Happy should face Samsara *first*??? Whoever that was, Huang Shaotian wished them nothing but bad luck.

May their rice always turned undercooked.

May they step on a fucking lego with every fifty steps they took.

Huang Shaotian spent the rest of the week fuming when he walked into the common room and saw some of his seniors were dressed to go with bags by their side.

"Where the hell are you going? You guys just arrived here," Huang Shaotian said.

"S City."

Huang Shaotian gasped, held his chest, choked back, and shouted in the most offended way possible as he pointed at them. "You *motherfuckers*—"

They all smiled wisely at Huang Shaotian like a group of an enlightened buddha. "It's our calling, Huang Shao."

"Bitch, you chose to go to S City rather than staying here to watch your team's home game? I can't believe this, you dirty traitors, dirty old men, trashes to society!" Huang Shaotian was accused. "Where's your loyalty to Blue Rain!? Instead, you helped Samsara to have a full house?!"

"Uh, champion team's first match is usually full house anyway—"

"Shut the fuck up!" Huang Shaotian shrieked. "How could you do this to Blue Rain?!"

"Duh, Madam is there," one person rolled their eyes. "And she'll cosplay as Sailor Moon."

Huang Shaotian facepalmed, he knew these old men were hopeless when his Boss Wei came to the picture. Damn it! He also wanted to greet Wei Chen but can he do that? NO!

"Well, our ride is here." One senior stood up and grabbed his bag.

"Wait, seriously!? Have you guys told Captain Yu about this? Where are you going? When are you coming back? You won't stay long there, right? You guys better not go and have fun with Boss Wei without me there! I will not rest easy!" Huang Shaotian followed them the entire way out and saw their ride in a form of a minivan with a very familiar man in the driver seat.

HONK HONK!

Fang Shijing raised his sunglasses and perched it atop his head, waving at Huang Shaotian. "Good to see you, Shaotian! How are you? I heard S City is absolutely beautiful during this time of the year."

Huang Shaotian was speechless. "Captain Fang?"

"The one and only," Fang Shijing winked. "Come on you old fools! I already sacrificed a lot by coming here first rather than straight to S City, you better not waste anymore of my time which I could spend reminiscing about Boss Wei!" he yelled to his fellow old guys.

Huang Shaotian stood there in disbelief. '*This old guy... After retirement, he let himself go!*' At least back when he was still a captain, Fang Shijing still pretended to be a gentle wise guy. Now, he revealed his true nature so easily!

While the people outside were getting rowdy, Yu Wenzhou watched them leave from the second floor's window with Lu Hanwen by his side. The two were just having a private meeting regarding the boy's training before they were distracted by the people outside.

"The uncles are leaving?" Lu Hanwen peered curiously. He saw the way they dressed were like going on a vacation and pouted jealously. "Captain, where are they going?!" he whined.

"Maybe for a brief survey? Enough, you have enough breaks all summer, don't be jealous," Yu Wenzhou said.

"WHOOOO!!! Sailor Wei! Here I come!"

Yu Wenzhou's ears twitched and he peered out of the window with slightly sharpened eyes.

"Are they going sailing?!" Lu Hanwen was even more jealous. "I haven't sailed before! Not even during summer!"

"S City! S City! S City!"

"Is that Captain Fang...?" Yu Wenzhou murmured and confirmed a second later. He had no doubt where they were going to go. Unfortunately, even as the captain of the team, he had little control over the staff's activities so he could only blankly watch as they boarded the minivan and drove off.

"Captain, I want to go sailing too!" Lu Hanwen tugged on Yu Wenzhou's sleeve.

Yu Wenzhou's lips twitched and he didn't answer, internally, he was calculating how to get those people *really* busy once they returned.

Team Happy arrived in a fashion, naturally as the more eye-catching team this season due to their unique marketing at the early Challenger League, that relied heavily on flaunting and frustrating some people to death, they were one of the most sought out teams at the start of the season

Many people waited to see them fall in an embarrassing manner after all that boasting marketing, but not a few people wanted to see them giving a good result after their successful marketing campaign by streaming in the Summer Transfer Window.

The fanbase for Happy practically formed itself with the recorded stream that spread in the internet.

Being a team made almost entirely of women also helped to their fame and infamy. But no matter how big their fanbase had grown over the summer, they still couldn't compare to Samsara's fanbase in their own stadium. Samsara had become a powerhouse with their two consecutive wins, they were unstoppable last season and were still the season's favourite.

It didn't matter. They didn't really have that high of an aspiration for the start of the season anyway. Most of the members were rookies. Not to mention one of them just started this summer and was still in need of further training.

Instead, they were more interested in the discussion of hoarding more jobs.

"I mean, you're the prettiest and he's the most handsome, we can win a lot if we can make a CP between you two," Fang Rui said to Su Mucheng as she peeled her melon seeds.

"There's just no spark," Su Mucheng sighed. "Instead, maybe Xiu-jie should step up," she glanced at Ye Xiu. "She's pretty too, just force her to sleep according to schedule and stop smoking. Look at Qiu-jie, sigh, so pretty."

Fang Rui also sighed dreamily at that. "Yup."

"But how are you guys going to make a CP with Zhou Zekai of all people?" An Wenyi asked, confused.

"Pssh, he's the easiest to exploit amongst everyone else," Fang Rui rolled her eyes. "Honestly, I could think of at least ten ways with my familiarity with him, being fellow Season 5's debutant and all. Unfortunately, my heart already belongs to Old Lin since the very start so I never even glance at him..."

Su Mucheng arched an eyebrow at her. "Doubt."

"At least not *that* much," Fang Rui rolled her eyes. What could be said? Zhou Zekai was indeed *handsome*. His face was everyone's type. You can't just expect people to not *look* respectfully.

"Is he really that easy to tease?" Wei Chen looked at Ye Xiu.

Ye Xiu felt a foreboding feeling for Zhou Zekai. "What are you gonna do?"

"The usual," Wei Chen grinned.

"Da Jie, you're cosplaying underneath that," Ye Xiu eyed Wei Chen's jacket and then down to the knee-high boots she had. "You better not mess around."

Wei Chen looked down and snorted. "Fine, since you want to protect that junior of yours, I won't do anything."

"And get rid of that jacket. I already sacrifice so much to style your hair, you better show the world a full Sailor Moon," Fang Rui snapped her head back at Wei Chen. "If you don't, you'll have to pay me ten thousand yuan, remember that."

Wei Chen glared at her and unzipped her jacket. "Like I'm fucking scared of this."

"WOOOOOO!!!!!"

The entire team Happy looked up in confusion at the cheering audience.

"Are they paying attention?" Luo Ji squinted as Qiao Yifan hid her face in embarrassment.

Fang Rui straightened in astonishment. "Holy shit, Wei-jie. There are so many people waiting for you to reveal your inner Sailor Moon."

"You guys did essentially announce it on your stream," An Wenyi tossed them a dirty stare.

"Guys... the camera is on us," Ye Qiu mentioned as she shifted closer to Ye Xiu. Ye Xiu flicked a glance to the big screen displaying the situation of the field and stepped to cover Ye Qiu from the camera lens.

"Woooahh! We're on the screen!" Steamed Bun jumped in excitement. She seemed to be the only one thrilled with the attention.

"Fuck, the organizers are really perverted!" Wei Chen exclaimed. "They really know how to feed the crowd with laoniang's charm. Fine! They want a show? This mother will give them a show!" Wei Chen decided and aggressively took off her jacket.

"Go, jie! Go!" Fang Rui fanned the fire.

Team Samsara witnessed how the crowd went crazy, forget the crowd, most of them also couldn't look away from the spectacle.

"Oh my God," Wu Qi gasped, touched and moved.

"Remind me to thank the organizers," Lu Boyuan told Fang Minghua with a blissful smile. "Thank God we got to see this live rather than Tyranny."

"Indeed like Senior Tong said," Jiang Botao's smile twitched. "No wonder she and Captain Ye split the early Alliance into two teams back then."

Meanwhile, the ones who were beside themselves in joy were Blue Rain's senior staff teams who mingled with other audience and celebrated their lives as if this was the last day they lived. Blue Rain's match? What was that? Was there anything more important than Wei Chen in Sailor Moon outfit?

Fang Shijing wiped away his imaginary tears and gave a thumb up to Fang Rui for starting the bet. No wonder she was like his own daughter. To think she even conveyed his daydream to the real person without ever knowing about it? What a good girl!

While Happy started the game with great fanfare thanks to their inside bet and Wei Chen's audacity. They also lost with great fanfare.

10 to 0. They couldn't do worse if they wanted to. Yet, none of the members seemed concerned with the result. They still smiled like beautiful flowers when they shook hands with Samsara's members after the match, still laughing like spring wind as they returned to their seats, still easy going.

People began to wonder if they treated this seriously at all, but no matter what Happy DID defeat Excellent Era and had three All-Stars in their team so it couldn't be said they were being random either. However, it was doomed that they would get a lot of criticism for this performance.

And criticism they got, but the reporters' cynical criticisms were met by a wall named Ye Xiu.

The reporters were made speechless by Ye Xiu and the others in the post-match interview, and honestly? Team Happy couldn't care less.

"Hey, hey, where are you guys going?" An Wenyi hissed at the remaining girls who didn't have to sit for the interview.

Wei Chen turned to look at him with that grin that An Wenyi had long learned to be dangerous. "Laoniang has retired from this scene for eight years, I need to re-familiarize myself with the people in it."

"Then why are you dragging the others?"

"Wenyi," Wei Chen furrowed her brows. "As a senior, I'm bringing you, rookies, to familiarize yourself with the people in the pro scene. There's nothing wrong with this! Come on," she tugged Qiao Yifan and Tang Rou with her.

"Da jie, please, have some shame, I'm begging you," An Wenyi gritted his teeth and readjusted his glasses that went skewed along with his patience.

"We're just going to greet them."

"Da-jie—"

"Hey, there! Samsara!" Wei Chen called out loudly as she waved. Different from Happy, Samsara was just done with their interview and blinked when they saw a group of beauties walking their ways.

Fang Minghua watched in disappointment as most of his teammates immediately straightened and fixed their clothes. As a married man, it pained him to see how 'inexperienced' was practically spelled on their faces.

"Good game just now, as expected of the champion. Heh, heh," Wei Chen's lips curled into an intoxicating arc that had the men clearing their throats.

"Thank you, senior, you're flattering us," Jiang Botao said pleasantly in a polite manner.

"You're too polite," Wei Chen scanned Jiang Botao furtively before moving on to her next ammunition. "It makes me happy to see the team I gifted to be so successful, you guys made use of the gift pretty nicely."

Lu Boyuan swallowed. "Gift?"

"Did Ye Xiu not tell you? The Skill Books? That's my life work," Wei Chen patted her chest proudly. "I wanted to go with her back then, but unfortunately, I can't."

"O-oh!" Lu Boyuan nodded rapidly. "I did hear it wasn't from Ye-jie herself, so it turned out to be from senior..." Lu Boyuan smiled brightly.

Zhou Zekai nodded at Wei Chen. "Thank you."

Wei Chen smiled. "No problem, the one who voted to sell to you is Ye Xiu still. I was honestly swaying more to Blue Rain."

Hearing thus', even Jiang Botao smiled awkwardly. If that data was sold to Blue Rain, Samsara wouldn't have been the eighth season's champion, it would be Blue Rain instead.

"Then, thank you for choosing us," Jiang Botao said pleasantly. "Samsara and Happy could be said to have a connection prior to this, let's have a happy cooperation."

Zhou Zekai nodded. "Thank you, senior."

"I'm tired hearing 'senior' this 'senior' that. Just call me sister, or am I too old?" Wei Chen beamed and An Wenyi paid closer attention to how Samsara reacted and exhaled when they shook their heads.

"How could that be? Wei-jie looks much younger."

"Honestly, you look younger than me."

"If I didn't already know your real age, I would have called you 'meimei'!"

"What 'meimei'? Wei-jie, are you fishing compliments from the juniors? Tsk, you're still digging a deeper hole for yourself."

This time, it was Zhou Zekai who straightened his jacket subtly and smiled brightly at the incoming group of women who just finished their interview session.

"In my life, I never heard an insincere compliment from men," Wei Chen snorted.

"That's some confidence there," Fang Rui covered her mouth.

"Little Zhou, if this woman bothers you, ignore her. She's the pioneer captain of Blue Rain, Huang Shaotian's mentor, both of them have trash mouths," Ye Xiu said.

"No," Zhou Zekai smiled sheepishly as he shook his head.

"Wei-jie didn't bother us, Captain Ye," Jiang Botao continued for his captain. "We were just getting friendly with each other."

"Oh? Then have you been introduced to my team?" Ye Xiu reached to grab Ye Qiu's arm naturally to pull her by her side to reveal her entirely to Samsara. "This is Ye Qiu, my younger twin sister."

The guys finally got a good look at the famous twin sister and smiled cheerfully at her. "Hello, sister."

"Nice to meet you."

Ye Xiu took it upon herself to introduce the rest of her team with Fang Rui's help.

Several reporters inevitably noticed their interaction and snapped a few pictures to perfect their stock images later on. When they looked at the result, they found that the pictures were quite good and nice to look at and snapped a few more to be posted later.

They didn't stay to talk for long, mainly because the longer it was the more Ye Xiu noticed Sun Xiang was uncomfortable, not wanting to make things difficult for him she ended the conversation with a pat to Zhou Zekai. "Good game, Little Zhou. Congrats on making an era by the way. Sorry for the late congratulations, I got really busy last season."

Zhou Zekai nodded, pursing his lips into a smile. "Okay."

"Okay, work hard everyone. We need to get going," Ye Xiu said.

"Bye, bye~" Su Mucheng said cheerfully.

Zhou Zekai waved his hand and sighed slightly as he watched the back of Ye Xiu's retreating figure. If it wasn't because it was the start of the season and he had too much attention on himself, he would have invited Ye Xiu and her team to a restaurant or something by asking Jiang Botao to ask them to.

When they parted ways, Fang Rui walked by Wei Chen's side and leaned over. "So? Topnotch guy, right? I told you it's not just filter, he looks good in real life too."

"Face ten out of ten," Wei Chen nodded sagely. "But too shy."

"I like shy men," Fang Rui commented blissfully.

"You guys better stop preying on unsuspecting young men," Ye Xiu said.

"I'm not preying. I looked respectfully," Wei Chen argued.

[Samsara and Happy interacting closely post-match after Happy's disastrous defeat.]

[Samsara's Zhou Zekai charming his way in to Happy.]

[Two visual teams together post-match]

[Ye Xiu pats Zhou Zekai on the shoulder; a sign for changing era? The Battle Goddess and the Gunner King! CP]

[Allied Teams? Samsara and Happy hit it off swimmingly at the start of the season!]

[[Happy Official is LIVE]]

"-n't know why you guys—"

"Shut up, we're live."

"We don't have to do this if QiuQiu didn't buy that blue cheese."

"I admit guilty to that."

"But it's so good, though."

"Girls, girls," Ye Xiu snapped at the people behind the camera who was somehow could still be heard through the mic. "We're just unboxing today, why the he—why on earth are we talking about this?"

"I'm not cut for this," Wei Chen said as she combed through her hair with her fingers, using the camera as a mirror

"Today, I'm accompanied by Wei Chen, the eldest sister in Happy," Ye Xiu said. "Mainly because the both of us are too generous in donating to the inside's donation box."

"That thing is a highway robbery," Wei Chen growled as she glared at Ye Xiu. "Look at you, falling for your own order."

"I spent exactly twenty yuan this week, you did three hundred." Ye Xiu pointed out.

"Maybe next time you two should refrain yourself from swearing," Chen Guo rolled her eyes from behind the camera.

"Or maybe you all should toughen up and don't be a pussy," Wei Chen spat.

"Keep it PG," Su Mucheng reminded. "Or I'll have to put water in your shampoo bottle and mix it again."

"Don't you dare!" Wei Chen condemned and several girls gasped.

"Whatever, let's just be done with this," Ye Xiu said as she directly tore out a package. "This is something someone bought, you girls better didn't waste any money-- Who ordered this?" Ye Xiu demanded as she took out a frog ceramic figure. "We don't need—"

- "I did," Su Mucheng said sheepishly off-camera.
- "—anything else but this, this is perfect. I was just searching for this," Ye Xiu nodded solemnly.
- "It's an ashtray," Su Mucheng said cheerfully as she picked up the upper part of the frog and opened it.
- "We'll put this in the living room," Ye Xiu put it aside and Chen Guo reverently evacuated the piece of art that Su Mucheng brought.
- "Let's just unbox the fans' gifts now," Chen Guo hastily said as she brought in several packages and put them in front of Ye Xiu before slinking back behind the camera.

Ye Xiu fiddled with her cigarette before putting it down. "You guys truly don't need to do this, but I appreciate it."

"Where're the comments, though?" Wei Chen eyed the screen.

"Oh, it didn't appear, no wonder I feel it's a bit empty today."

"Sorry, sorry, a mistake."

The comments appeared in a barrage.

- [GODDESS!!!!!]
- [We're here, Goddess! This place will never be empty with you here!]
- [MADAAAAAAAAAAMMMMM!!!]
- [I to You, Madam! <3 <3 <3]
- [We were in your last match but you didn't see us: '(but it doesn't matter, as long as I could see you in person!]
- [The Pioneer Female Captains are streaming together!:') this is the best birthday present to an old fan like me. MADAM WEI, I LOVE YOU! Goddess Ye, you're such a beautiful woman indeed!]
- [I've decided to re-follow Glory again after I see Goddess Ye has revealed herself. Now I'm blessed with this content.]
- [BOSS WEIIIIIII!!!]
- [Give us a smile!]
- [NOTICE ME, GODDESS!!!]
- [Wait, you guys accept fanmail? WHY DIDN'T I KNOW ABOUT THIS! I'M A F***ING FAILURE!!!]

"Haha, hello there," Ye Xiu said as she opened the first package. "Oh? What is this?" Ye Xiu held up a pair of cat ears.

"Isn't that something that people put on on their headphones to get a cat-ears headphone?" Fang Rui responded vaguely.

"Is that so?" Ye Xiu asked indifferently. "Well, Fang Rui could use this."

"HEY!"

"What do you have there?" Ye Xiu asked Wei Chen who struggled to open the box of her choice.

"I hope this is socks," Wei Chen said seriously.

"You should interact with the audience."

Wei Chen looked straight at the camera, "I hope this is socks," she repeated begrudgingly.

- [Is that it? Brb sending you tons of socks]
- [Silk or wool?]
- [Long or short?]

"It's a penguin," Wei Chen blankly said as he pulled out a penguin plushie.

"Another plushie?" Ye Xiu smiled as she grabbed it from Wei Chen. "This one's cute."

Ye Qiu stood up then from her lounging place on the sofa at the other side of the room, the opposite of the streaming place, she rubbed her eyes. "I'm going to sleep first."

"Good night!" Chen Guo waved at her. She was too wide awake to sleep even though the rest of team Happy had gone to bed. There were only Su Mucheng, Tang Rou, Fang Rui, and her behind the camera.

"You're going to sleep?" Ye Xiu looked up and blinked in askance.

"Mm."

"Wait," Ye Xiu said and turned to the camera. "I'll leave for a bit to wish my sister a good night, you guys chat with Wei-jie."

"Urgh, you twin sisters," Wei Chen growled as Ye Xiu scooted back and stood up, leaving the scene.

Even Chen Guo was astonished as she watched the two sisters left the room. "Wow, they're so close." As expected of twins.

"That's so sweet," Fang Rui cooed.

"Did they always do that?" Chen Guo asked. She slept over sometimes but she didn't stay here permanently and still had to return to Happy Internet Cafe, she *did* plan to do a little renovation of this house to move in with her girls.

"Always. When Qiu-jie wants to sleep, and it's mostly on schedule, Xiu-jie will always stop training and went to wish her a good night."

"She tucks her sister in at night," Wei Chen, their roommate, said indifferently. "Always so diabetically sweet. 'good night Ye Qiu' 'good night Ye Xiu' and if I'm unlucky to be in the same room, I'll get a 'good night Wei-jie' too."

- [Help. That's too f*cking cute.]
- [I need my insulin.]
- [I'm crying.]
- [Goddess Ye and Xiaojie are sisters goal]
- [Tuck her in? AAAWWWWWW]

"Hey, you need to interact with the audience," Fang Rui realized that Wei Chen did not say anything else and only focused on tearing apart the packages. "Follow the script, Wei-jie!" she hissed.

"Why do I have to do it alone?" Wei Chen demanded. "I don't know a thing about streaming."

- [Try smiling more]
- [Just smile and say hi usually works.]
- [Do you accept QnA?]

"The package- never mind, do as you want," Su Mucheng said helplessly.

• [Are you married?]

"Married? Hahahahaha!" Wei Chen hollered in laughter before stopping abruptly in a solemn manner. "That question has a price to answer."

• [Little Fish In The Sea has donated 5,000 Yuan!!!]

"Holy—I got myself a patron here!" Wei Chen said to her friends behind the camera and they all gave her a thumb's up enthusiastically. "To answer the question, there's no man in this world who can tie me up in a marriage. That's not arrogance speaking, I just haven't found one who dares to, "she said solemnly as she completely pulled apart the scotch tape on the package and opened it to find several bars of chocolates. "Mine," she said and the girls behind the camera stared at her in disbelief.

"Hey, hey!"

"I opened it, it's mine now, okay?"

"That's addressed to this house. That belongs to this house!"

"Not if it's edible, no. First come first serve. Thanks to whoever sent this chocolate... Your name is... Lu Wei? Thanks Lu Wei!" Wei Chen put the chocolates on her lap. "Next question," she randomly looked at the chat. "I'm feeling generous because of the earlier donation. I'll answer another question."

• [Any boyfriend?]

Wei Chen chuckled. "No. Laoniang is a bit too much to handle for an average man."

"Ooh!" Fang Rui whooped and laughed loudly.

"See? Rui agrees," Wei Chen gestured to the girl off-camera as she leaned on her elbow on the coffee table.

- [Indeed, common men just couldn't hope to touch such a fair lady like madam]
- [Low-class men shouldn't even dare to dream, really.]
- [I really like a woman with freedom like you, jie~]
- [Where's Goddess Ye? Is she still tucking her sister to sleep?]
- [Are you familiar with Zhou Zekai?]

One particular question caught Wei Chen's attention. "Zhou Zekai? We just fought Samsara a few days ago. We even talked for a bit," she chuckled.

- [Aaaaah! I'm so jealous! >w<]
- [What do you think of him?]
- [Is he nice?]

"He's a nice man," Wei Chen said. "It seems like we have quite a lot of female fans lurking today, hm?" she leaned forward slightly.

- [There are many pictures of Happy and Samsara spreading around on the internet.]
- [Why are you guys so friendly when Samsara slaughtered you guys?]

"Why? Can't I just be friendly?"

- [Who wouldn't want to be friendly with Zhou Zekai, though?]
- [As a woman, don't mention slaughtered, I'll welcome Zhou Zekai to step on me.]
- [The women audience are coming out here to thirst over Zhou Zekai!]

- [BEGONE!!!]
- [I'm a man, Zhou Zekai can slaughter me and I'll thank him.]
- [Mood.]

"So many Samsara's fans here," Wei Chen commented in amusement. "But Zhou Zekai is indeed handsome. A rare one, that one. Very polite and gentle, shy too."

Wei Chen's casual comment sparked a fire in the chat livestream.

- [DON'T BE DECEIVED BY HIS LOOKS!!!]
- [HE'S A F*CKING WEIRDO!]
- [He's my ENEMY, BOSS WEI!]
- [NOOOOOOOOOOOOO!!!!]
- [AAAAAAAAAAAA]
- [Madam, you're tearing us apart!]
- [I hate Zhou Zekai]
- [Count me in]
- [Zhou Zekai's charm is endless.]
- [NOT YOU TOO!!!!]

The more she was denied to do so, the more Wei Chen would do so. "Why? He's truly handsome, you're lying to yourself if you said he's not. In fact, he's so handsome it's really distracting. Samsara's win could be attributed to Zhou Zekai being so distractingly handsome."

Wei Chen watched in glee as the chat flashed furiously, you couldn't even read any chat since they came so fast from several dozens or even hundreds of people. She chuckled evilly when things got hotter.

"I'm back, what did I miss?" Ye Xiu returned and directly sat down beside Wei Chen again.

"I told them that I think Zhou Zekai is handsome and they lost their minds," Wei Chen snickered.

Ye Xiu shook her head. "But Zhou Zekai is handsome, I don't know what you guys are complaining about?"

The chat was practically a blur with no way to distinguish even a letter.

Wei Chen cackled harder.

"It's official, I hate Samsara and Zhou Zekai. You know how I always tell Huang Shao that his dislike towards Zhou Zekai is a bit unfair? Forget that. I should have trusted that brat's instinct more. That damn bastard, dare to seduce Madam Wei?" Bai Ling from the Technology department growled angrily.

"I can still forgive them for the eighth season's embarrassing defeat but this? This is getting out of hand." Liu Sang from the RnD gritted his teeth.

"Life is unfair, just because that bastard is only a bit handsome??? How dare he?"

"Guys, I think it's not fair to say that. After all, Zhou Zekai was born like that, he didn't ask to be handsome so we can't fault him for that," Ming Lifang from RnD said compassionately. "That being said, why didn't he cover that face? Doesn't he know this world is filled with common-looking man?" he glared angrily.

"Guys, calm down. You know how Boss Wei is, it's merely psychological warfare of hers, she always did this before, remember?" Fang Shijing said calmly. "I just hope that bastard surnamed Zhou doesn't take that teasing and basic courtesy to heart and fall for her charm just like Tiny Herb's Lin Jie," he frowned darkly.

"It's hard to ignore, mainly because whenever she teased someone as 'handsome' in the past, we can still deny it by saying they're average," Nie Sangqi of the Resource department whined. "But that Zhou Zekai, if we say that he's average, we'll be lying to ourselves. Not even in my eyes, I behold him as ugly! So we know she's sincere when saying that!"

"Shut up! Don't remind me of that!" Fei Xiang of RnD cried out.

Fang Shijing sighed when he heard of his friends' bemoaning before smirking. "Well, at least we can depend on Huang Shaotian. Let's hope the little brother barrier will hold off the annoying pests."

Troubling Rain: (a) Cloud Piercer don't fly to the seventh sky yet. Just because you're a little bit handsome doesn't mean much in this competition.

Empty Waves: Of course not. We're here competing with skill, I'm sure vice-captain Huang could also see our captain is competing with his skill.

Troubling Rain: He's skilled alright. Tell your captain to not mess around. How dare he to distract my boss Wei? It should be TYRANNY! I would feel more at ease if it was Tyranny as the first match but nooo, fuck those organizers. Don't think that I didn't see Samsara staring at Boss Wei in those photographs by reporters.

Troubling Rain: My seniors want me to tell you; fuck you, Samsara.

Windy Rain: I think it's a bit unfair to blame it all on Zhou Zekai and Samsara, right? Senior Wei Chen DID wear cosplay and a good one at that.

Troubling Rain: No, everything is fair when it comes to Boss Wei and Ye-jie. That's the 0A-XI rule of the Alliance.

Dark Thunder: Oh no. Why do you have to bring up that rule?

Another Sleep In Summer: How the hell a season 4's debutant know about that rule?

Sobbing Ghost: What rule?

Troubling Rain: @Another Sleep In Summer Duh, I'm a trainee since first season! Of course, I know a lot! Captain Fang declares that rule on the job and declares hostility to Samsara.

Dazzling Hundred Blossoms: What the fuck?! Who dug into the old ancient rule again?! That rule is long-buried when Wei Chen retired!

Windy Rain: WHAT RULE!?

Dark Thunder: (a) Windy Rain Rule 0A-X1; "Everything is fair as long as it involves Ye Xiu or/and Wei Chen's name." Essentially a chaos rule.

Vaccaria: I seem to have heard about that.

Vaccaria: @FangShiQianQian

Dazzling Hundred Blossoms: a Troubling Rain as a young man, let's forget all the grudge. That rule is an old rule. Let's all get along.

FangShiQianQian: 'sup. Who summoned me?

Vaccaria: Have you heard Rule 0A-X1?

FangShiQianQian: What the fuck? You're dragging me here for war?

Vaccaria: What?

FangShiQianQian: Okay, roll up your sleeves, fuckers. What are we fighting about?

Vaccaria: Wait.

Another Sleep In Summer: Don't start anything Fang Shiqian.

FangShiQianQian: Who the fuck are you?

FangShiQianQian: Oh wait, Sun Zheping? Right, I forgot you re-joined.

Troubling Rain: I'm condemning Zhou Zekai for distracting Boss Wei and I'm using rule 0A-XI to justify my condemnation. Everything is fair when it comes to Ye-jie and Boss Wei.

FangShiQianQian: What warrants the condemnation? And does the defender side has any defense?

Cloud Piercer: I...

Empty Waves: We really don't understand.

Troubling Rain: Both Ye-jie and Boss Wei said Zhou Zekai is really handsome on stream.

FangShiQianQian: ... FUCK. If this happens in Season 2, the whole chatroom would fall.

One Autumn Leaf: Why?!

FangShiQianQian: As an upfront loyalist of Team Wei due to Tiny Herb's first captain's, Lin Jie's, extension of affection and a secret agent of Team Ye, I have to say, fuck off Zhou Zekai, how dare you?

Troubling Rain: EXACTLY!

Vaccaria: This is getting out of hands, Fang Shiqian, you're not helping at all.

Desert Dust: That rule is revoked. Ye Xiu and Wei Chen are in the same team now. Stop this before you regret it.

Chapter End Notes

In case some of you are lost

Wei Chen often referred to himself as 'laozi' on canon chapters. It references to himself as an old man to put himself on a pedestal since in asian culture, you have to respect the older people. Usually translated as 'This father', a crude and rude way to say 'I' Here, Wei Chen used 'laoniang' essentially the female version of 'laozi'. I used it too in the prev chapters but just in case you forgot. Idk. I'm more comfortable translating 'laozi' than 'laoniang' since the terms 'This father' sounds comical but 'this mother' sounds off, odd, and kinda solemn in english. Which is weird. Maybe it's because of the stigma that men are playful while women respects the position of 'mother'.

Next! Tyranny is in the house, the lovers will unite in a fashion that exhausted their teammates, and Zhang Jiale had to bear witness to Happy's madness. Zhang Xinjie sips his tea calmly.

Tyranny

Chapter Summary

Wei Chen stepped back, holding her hands up. "I'm not arguing with you, I'll leave you to Ye Xiu." With that, Wei Chen retreated. Fang Rui also stole a peck from Lin Jingyan's lips and winked at him before stepping away.

Ye Xiu walked forward, smiling lightly. "Did my girls bother your boys, Old Han?"

"Just tell them to not distract my teammates," Han Wenqing said sternly.

Chapter Notes

See the end of the chapter for notes

"Old Lin!" Fang Rui squealed when she spotted her boyfriend and immediately took off to feed everyone dog food.

Ugh... The single men frowned.

"Look at you, heh, have you been working out?" Fang Rui said flirtatiously as she shamelessly fondled with Lin Jingyan's biceps through his jacket.

"I have," Lin Jingyan nodded helplessly as she patted Fang Rui's head to get her to settle down. "How are you? Sorry I couldn't help you move."

"Aww, it's fineee," Fang Rui smiled brilliantly. "I didn't have much to move anyway. Just some clothes, and a few others. And I've been doing *great*."

"I can see that," Lin Jingyan smiled. "I'm glad you're having fun."

"How sweet," Su Mucheng commented with a playful grin.

"What mushiness," Wei Chen smirked. "Yo, long time no see."

"Long time no see," Lin Jingyan nodded at Wei Chen. "How have you been?"

"Pretty good, pretty good," Wei Chen smiled. "Gotta say, I was quite surprised when I found out Rui is your girlfriend, Old Lin. You have a type, after all..." her smile turned more sinister and Lin Jingyan felt his back drenched in sweat in no time.

Fang Rui directed her gaze to Lin Jingyan's face and she beamed. "You know, I heard something interesting from Wei-jie. Something about Team Ye and Team Wei..." She poked her boyfriend's chest. "Heard you were in Team Wei," she arched an eyebrow.

"That was a long time ago," Lin Jingyan's lips twitched.

"Oho, but obviously your preference hasn't changed," Wei Chen pointed out. "So, you like girls who play and speak dirty, huh?"

"That's..." Lin Jingyan trailed off.

"Am I dirty enough?" Fang Rui wiggled her brows and Lin Jingyan's face flushed red.

Seeing that his teammate was losing, Zhang Jiale hastily stepped forward in a show of solidarity. "Hey, stop double-teaming on Old Lin like that, you girls are bullying him," he clicked his tongue.

Wei Chen and Fang Rui exchanged glances and the older woman smiled wickedly.

"Jiale, long time no see. I have to say you changing team to Tyranny is out of expectations, but it's fitting," Wei Chen narrowed her eyes charmingly. "You also have a type."

"What?" Zhang Jiale blinked in confusion.

"A tough man who stubbornly pushes forward and very aggressive as the captain," Wei Chen clicked her tongue. "First Sun Zheping, now Han Wenqing. Hehe, your type is quite stereotypical."

"HUH!? What are you talking about?!" Zhang Jiale flushed.

Fang Rui snickered. "I don't blame you, Senior Zhang. But please do think of Senior Sun's feelings." She winked.

"Zheping was with us briefly in the Challenger League, he didn't mention you once. Did you guys fight?" Wei Chen smirked.

Eventually, Zhang Jiale had to step back from helping his teammate and went to Han Wenqing to cry.

"Old Han! Stop them, please!"

Han Wenqing gazed at Wei Chen and Fang Rui, shaking his head.

Wei Chen stepped back, holding her hands up. "I'm not arguing with you, I'll leave you to Ye Xiu." With that, Wei Chen retreated. Fang Rui also stole a peck from Lin Jingyan's lips and winked at him before stepping away.

Ye Xiu walked forward, smiling lightly. "Did my girls bother your boys, Old Han?"

"Just tell them to not distract my teammates," Han Wenqing said sternly.

"Your fault for dropping by unannounced, if you tell me first, I might prepare them a bit. We rarely saw men here so we jumped at every chance to tease one," Ye Xiu said as she fiddled with her unlit cigarette.

"Isn't your Cleric a man?" Zhang Xinjie said.

"Yes," Ye Xiu offered no further explanation. "And you can't blame us for being distracting when you came here unannounced with your distracting sexy attire," she leered at Han Wenqing who wore a black tank top and open plain shirt over it. "Did you walk here?" she eyed Han Wenqing's sweaty neck.

Han Wenqing shook his head helplessly at the woman in front of him, not even affected by her teasings. He had heard her kinds of bullshit over the years, he was not the juniors who lost their cool when Ye Xiu started her teasing. "We're dropping by for a visit."

"How domestic," Su Mucheng sighed obviously. "Do you bring food also?" she eyed Zhang Xinjie's empty hands critically.

"As much as I don't mind domestic visits, I still would like a notification beforehand," Ye Xiu said. "You're dropping by to a house full of women, notifying me is the least you can do beforehand."

Hearing that, Han Wenqing paused and nodded. "Alright. I'm sorry." He was indeed intruding a house with almost only women in it.

Wei Chen snorted, "Pegged."

"So, why are you guys here? Just for a visit? Boring," Fang Rui said from beside Ye Xiu. "How could you only *visit* when your girlfriend got kicked out of the team and had to move in here by herself?" she said dramatically.

"Didn't you say you don't mind moving alone?" Lin Jingyan said helplessly.

"It's the thoughts that's count, Old Lin. If you only come to visit, it doesn't make any change."

"Then, what do you want?"

"We're going to have a match in a few days," Zhang Jiale stepped in between the two lovers. "Stop producing dog food."

"How dirty, Senior Zhang. Just because you can't get it with Senior Sun, it doesn't mean you can cut off people's red thread of fate," Fang Rui snorted.

"Yes. Please think of yourself as single for the entire season, Old Lin. Happy is quite strict about dating members," Ye Xiu said bluntly to Lin Jingyan.

"Too busy practicing?" Han Wenqing arched an eyebrow.

"Aren't we all?" Ye Xiu shot back.

"Most of you still can't work well with Unspecialized," Zhang Xinjie spoke up.

Ye Xiu fiddled with her unlit cigarette. "You're here to say the obvious? I have a more important thing to attend. Such as training my team's rookie Sharpshooter."

"Your twin sister?" Han Wenqing asked.

Ye Xiu tilted her head and looked around. "Where's Xiao Qiu?" she blinked when she couldn't see her sister to be introduced to Han Wenqing.

"What?" there were rustles of plastic bags and someone popped her head into the training room. She arched an eyebrow when she saw the people in the room. "I don't know we have guests," she said leisurely.

"Ye Xiaoqiu," Ye Xiu called her with her nickname. "These are the people from team Tyranny, your elder sister's friends."

"Hello, team Tyranny," Ye Qiu said, mimicking her sister's way to call them. "I'm Ye Qiu, the one whose name you've heard until you're tired in the past."

The guys sweatdropped hearing that.

"Let's introduce you properly. This is Han Wenqing, the captain," Ye Xiu easily patted Han Wenqing's shoulder. "That one is LeLe—"

"I'm Zhang Jiale!" Zhang Jiale interrupted Ye Xiu indignantly.

"This is Fang Rui's boyfriend, Lin Jingyan," Ye Xiu gestured to Lin Jingyan. "And the other glasses guy is Zhang Xinjie, the vice captain."

Ye Qiu once again nodded to them all and they all nodded back kindly. She eyed Lin Jingyan. "I've heard a lot about you." Lin Jingyan smiled sheepishly and Ye Qiu looked at Han Wenging, "Are you the ex-boyfriend?" she asked doubtfully.

Silence descended and everyone looked at Ye Qiu in shock and incredulity.

"Ex--?" Zhang Jiale choked back and looked at Han Wenqing with wide eyes.

"What are you talking about?" Ye Xiu furrowed her brows.

"Oh, he's not?" Ye Qiu smiled apologetically. "Sorry."

Han Wenqing turned to Ye Xiu. "You have an ex-boyfriend?"

Ye Xiu looked at Han Wenqing incredulously. "No!" She answered, mildly indignant.

"Then, where did the 'ex-boyfriend' come from?" Zhang Jiale looked at Ye Qiu.

"You don't have an ex-boyfriend?" Ye Qiu turned to Ye Xiu instead.

"Where did you hear I have an ex-boyfriend?" Ye Xiu asked incredulously.

Ye Qiu frowned, upset. "You said you had a boyfriend!"

Ye Xiu was speechless. "I did. Su Mucheng's brother *was* my boyfriend. But what makes you think Han Wenqing is my ex-boyfriend?"

"Su Mucheng's brother?" Zhang Xinjie looked over at Su Mucheng who facepalmed.

"Isn't he 'Old Han'?" Ye Qiu asked. "You kept saying 'Old Han this' 'Old Han that' with RuiRui when she talked about her boyfriend 'Old Lin'."

Everyone finally understood. It was a misunderstanding!

"Qiu-xiaojie, just because Xiu-jie speaks about Old Han while I speak about Old Lin, it doesn't mean they're dating. As you can see, Old Han and Old Lin are in the same team," Fang Rui sweated a little. The tension earlier was thicker than what she purposefully made to catch Lin Jingyan a few years ago and it all started from the word 'ex-boyfriend'!

"Then! It's all a misunderstanding!" Su Mucheng clapped her hands.

"I admire your ability to escalate a situation," Wei Chen said sincerely to Ye Qiu.

Ye Qiu shook her head. "If it's a misunderstanding, then it's a misunderstanding. I already said sorry," she pouted.

"Have a drink, seniors," Qiao Yifan said kindly as she set down four glasses of water on the table. "Sorry, we only have this much."

"Oh, please don't mind us," Lin Jingyan said gently. "We came unannounced, after all."

"We have diet coke at the back, but Ye Xiu said Han Wenqing would rather drink boiling hot water than that," Wei Chen piped in.

"There's barely any difference between coke and diet coke," Han Wenqing said. "Both are sugar water."

"See?" Ye Xiu gestured as she took a sip of her diet coke.

"Water is fine, thank you," Zhang Jiale flashed a smile to the kind-faced young woman.

Thud!

"Xiao Xiu! Xiao Tang! MuMu! I brought cookies and biscuits!"

"Oh?" Ye Xiu blinked when she heard the voice coming from the front door. "That would be our lady boss."

"Let me," Tang Rou already left her seat and exited the common room to fetch Chen Guo.

"So," Ye Xiu turned back to the guests and smiled. "I'm sure you have a lot of questions," she eyed Han Wenqing with amusement.

"I already have my answers, just need your confirmation," Han Wenqing said calmly.

"So, you've done your homework."

"More like observation."

"Can you guys stop acting like we don't exist?" Wei Chen said expressionlessly. "I've had enough of those pairs over there, if there's another one, I'll murder someone," she pointed at Lin Jingyan and Fang Rui who sat snuggled together in front of the tv, speaking to each other with whispers and soft snickers.

Another giggle resounded from Fang Rui and all the girls rolled their eyes hard.

"Get a fucking room, Fang Rui!" Wei Chen exclaimed indignantly, Fang Rui turned to stick her tongue out at her.

Chen Guo and Tang Rou entered and saw the sight of the living room, Chen Guo was petrified despite Tang Rou already telling her that Ye Xiu's *friends* were inside.

"That's the lady boss that picked me up when I got kicked out of Excellent Era," Ye Xiu said. "Sit here, boss. I'm sure you already know these four people."

"I-Is there anything wrong?" Chen Guo asked.

"Nah, they're here for a visit," Ye Xiu said. "Also for an interrogation regarding me and my other half's identity."

"Interrogation?" Chen Guo's gaze darted to the four.

Zhang Jiale choked. "We're not interrogating anyone. Stop slandering us!"

"Old Han promised me an interrogation," Ye Xiu said calmly.

"I said to expect me asking some questions," Han Wenqing denied.

"I brought food!" Chen Guo quickly interjected before they could go on. "Cookies, chocolates, many snacks." She cheerfully presented.

"You still don't change, act more like a lady, will you?" Zhang Jiale complained to Wei Chen who sat beside him and decided to bring her legs up to the sofa.

"Stop being a little bitch," Wei Chen glared at him.

"Seriously, I need to ask the sanity of whichever man decided to date you," Zhang Jiale clicked his tongue.

"She's still single," Ye Xiu said and Ye Qiu nodded. "She said she's allergic to romance," Ye Qiu added.

Wei Chen smirked. "Why, Jiale. You're using that ancient trick to ask whether I'm still single or not. Just ask," she poked Zhang Jiale's arm.

Fang Rui snickered from her place snuggling with Lin Jingyan. "I need to ask the sanity of whichever man decided to date you- wow, Senior Zhang, that is not smooth at all."

Zhang Jiale flushed hard. "I did *not* mean it like that!"

"Sure you didn't," Su Mucheng said sweetly.

Han Wenqing glanced at Zhang Jiale with mild pity as he covered his face in embarrassment. He knew mixing Ye Xiu and Wei Chen would be bad, but he didn't know it would be this bad, especially with Fang Rui here.

Chen Guo got really curious and turned to Wei Chen. "Is he also in your team?" of course she had heard about the inner circle's past from Wei Chen who boasted of her feat, not to mention Ye Xiu later on confirming it. The fact that the first two generations of Glory were divided into two teams was not a secret for Chen Guo.

Zhang Jiale raised his head and gasped loudly. "I'm *not!*"

"He's team Ye," Wei Chen said and Ye Xiu nodded. "His partner, Sun Zheping however, was in my team for whatever reasons. Probably because he can't handle the shameless wench's level of shamelessness."

"I just teased him once," Ye Xiu defended herself half-heartedly.

"Can we move on already?" Zhang Jiale growled.

"Ah! Jie!"

Zhang Jiale jumped in surprise and whirled around to see a young man standing there with his eyes closed.

"I told you guys no changing clothes in the hallway!"

Zhang Jiale looked down at his body, his hands on the hem of his clothes, wanting to pull it off. He let go of his clothes and cleared his throat. "Um, young man, I'm sorry, I didn't know the rule."

The young man's eyelids opened real fast and he squinted at Zhang Jiale. "Wait, I don't know you."

Zhang Jiale gaped incredulously. "Huh?!"

"We have a guest over?" An Wenyi blinked. "Why didn't I know this?" he finished cleaning his spectacle and put it back on, now he could clearly see that the person before him was not one of the girls living with him.

"I came with my team to visit," Zhang Jiale calmed down slightly. "I was just airing myself..."

An Wenyi scratched his head. "Sorry, I didn't see properly just now. It's my conditioned reflex to immediately close my eyes whenever I see a hint of skin underneath clothes and a stance to take it off."

"What's wrong?" Tang Rou popped in and raised her brows at the two. "I heard you called."

"False alarm," An Wenyi said. Most of the women here were older than him so out of habit, he just shouted out 'Jie' it didn't matter which sister. "I didn't know there's a guest?"

"They are dropping by. You didn't leave your room, so you don't notice." Tang Rou pointed out.

"They?"

"Four people," Tang Rou said.

"...From Tyranny?" An Wenyi looked at Zhang Jiale.

"Yes," Zhang Jiale said.

"Perfect, can you guys help me move the old grandfather clock upstairs and the bronze cabinet?" An Wenyi asked bluntly.

"Excuse me?" Zhang Jiale blinked.

"Here is fine?" Han Wenqing asked with knitted brows.

"Yes, slowly, slowly," An Wenyi gritted his teeth as they lowered the bronze cabinet back to the floor.

"Watch your foot," Zhang Xinjie said and Zhang Jiale yelped out of the way.

Thud.

"Now, just push it to fit the corner," An Wenyi gasped for breath as he readjusted his glasses.

"Okay, I'll raise it slightly and you push, okay?" Lin Jingyan turned to Han Wenqing. With the last burst of strength, the cabinet was pushed to fit the corner and everyone exhaled in relief.

"Thank you very much," An Wenyi bowed down. "No one in this house can move them and everyone essentially gave up to do anything about it," he said.

"How is this forsaken furniture is in the bathroom anyway?" Zhang Jiale slapped the bronze cabinet in disbelief

"It's the previous owner's belonging, we got it for free," Chen Guo said.

"You guys hired a moving company to move most of the furniture here, right? Why didn't you ask them to move this?" Lin Jingyan asked.

"It didn't cross our minds back then," Chen Guo said sheepishly.

"Qiu Fei, Bun, and I couldn't move this even with all three of us." An Wenyi leaned on the bronze cabinet.

"That thing is heavy!" Steamed Bun, who wanted to help but got stopped by Han Wenqing for doing so, pouted and crossed her arms.

"The rest of the house are ladies who couldn't even truss a chicken," Ye Xiu added. "Besides, I think that bronze cabinet looks mighty fine in that bathroom."

"Especially with how heavy it is?" Han Wenging arched an eyebrow.

Ye Xiu nodded. "When I think of how much of a bother to move it, the more I feel that cabinet should never be moved. I *touched* it with the idea of moving it and feel tired."

"I looked at it and feel tired," Wei Chen said.

"I thought of it and feel tired," Fang Rui said.

An Wenyi sighed as he wiped off his perspiration. "If this is left in the bathroom, it'll only worsen the wall because it trapped the humid air and captain said..."

"Wall takes years to get worse anyway, when that time came, just hire a reparation team to fix the wall and asked them to move it somewhere else," Ye Xiu shrugged.

"Well, now it's been moved, I'll scrape off the paint and order some materials to fix it," Luo Ji said as she took out her phone. She was the treasurer now, Chen Guo couldn't be trusted to not buy pretty things for her girls so someone had to step up.

"Oh! Oh! I know how to plaster wall, I love doing it!" Steamed Bun's eyes sparkled.

"Buy the paint too, I'll paint it later," Tang Rou said graciously.

"Let's just call someone," Chen Guo said anxiously. "You guys should just focus on the tournament."

"Now, now, girls. Boss is right. Let's just call someone for that," Ye Xiu said. She turned to Han Wenqing and the others and smiled leisurely. "You guys are a real help. Thanks for coming today."

"You're welcome..." Zhang Jiale said lifelessly.

"Our intention here is just to visit, but since you need help, there's nothing can be done," Zhang Xinjie said as he glanced at his watch. They had extended this visit for way too long,

but as long as it could be of help in the domestic life of this budding team and its almost all-women members, Zhang Xinjie couldn't find it himself to complain.

"Thank you~" Fang Rui pecked Lin Jingyan's cheek and wiped his sweat for him when he walked over.

"No problem," Lin Jingyan smiled fondly to his girlfriend.

Han Wenqing sighed. "Is that everything? You don't need anything else?"

Ye Xiu sighed fondly. "Truly a gentleman, Old Han. Thank you, but no. I think that's all for today, we can manage ourselves outside that grandfather clock and this cabinet." She smiled, "Want to rest for a while? You can even stay around for dinner, Mo Fan and Ye Qiu are cooking today."

"No, thanks. We've stayed for too long, we're going back to the hotel," Han Wenqing rejected.

"Sit and drink for a while, you guys just did menial work. Take some breather in the living room," Chen Guo suggested.

Han Wenqing agreed to that and the guys returned back to the living room where they had a drink and sit down for a few minutes to gather back their stamina.

Zhang Xinjie checked his watch and saw five minutes had passed, he looked over at Han Wenqing and nodded at him.

"We're leaving," Han Wenqing stood up and put down his empty cup in the middle of the table.

"Tsk, always so hasty," Ye Xiu clicked her tongue and also stood up to send them off.

"Going home?" Ye Qiu entered the living room with a stacked container. "I know you wouldn't stay for dinner so I packed you some."

"You don't have to," Lin Jingyan said.

"Oh, this isn't for you," Ye Qiu said bluntly. "This is for 'Old Han', 'Lele', and Zhang Xinjie."

"Yours is here~" Fang Rui stepped out from Ye Qiu's back with a smaller container. "I didn't cook it but I packed it myself in record speed because I knew that guy over there will only give us five minutes. I made sure it's your usual portion. There's a note inside," she whispered the last part and tiptoed to peck her boyfriend's cheek.

"Xiao Rui..." Lin Jingyan blushed and accepted the container, once again giving everyone dog food.

If PDA is a crime, this pair of lovebirds would have been on death row by now.

Ye Xiu grabbed the container from her little sister and pushed it to Han Wenqing. "Here for you three. Old Lin already accepted his, so don't reject this."

Han Wenqing frowned slightly. "You don't have to—"

"My lovely little sister packed her cooking in a container for you all, are you going to reject it?" Ye Xiu asked brilliantly, somehow Han Wenqing felt if he kept politely refusing, he'd regret it.

Han Wenqing accepted the stacked containers and nodded at Ye Xiu and Ye Qiu. "Thank you."

"No, thank you for moving that piece of horrendous furniture from the bathroom," Ye Qiu said.

"Take it as a payment, your hands are all okay, right?" Ye Xiu let go of the container and instead touched Han Wenqing's fingers lightly.

"It will be fine after a rest."

"What about you LeLe?" Ye Xiu turned to Zhang Jiale who solemnly put his hand on her extended one.

"I'm not used carrying things around."

"Oh, poor you," Ye Xiu entertained him with a pat on the back of his palm. "Thank you for your help upon us, a house full of girls."

"It's our pleasure," Zhang Xinjie responded.

The four guys finally walked to the front door with Ye Xiu, Fang Rui, Su Mucheng, and Chen Guo sending them off. When they looked at the sky, they realized just how much they had overstayed.

"See you later!" Zhang Jiale waved, ignoring the two lovers bidding each other goodbye beside him- no, luckily, they were not kissing in the front door as Lin Jingyan was too shy to be that intimate outside, thank God they were only speaking to each other with their disgusting 'lover voice'.

"Bye, bye," Ye Xiu waved.

"Oh, wait," Su Mucheng said. "The containers are not gifts, okay? Only the content. Return it later~" she winked.

Han Wenging nodded and Lin Jingyan laughed in acknowledgment.

The four decided to call a cab to return to the hotel. Once they boarded the car, they suddenly felt tired.

"Now, that's a house full of personalities," Zhang Jiale smiled helplessly.

"I admire them. They could somehow maintain a system in that chaos," Zhang Xinjie said.

Han Wenging didn't say anything and only looked out of the window in silence.

Zhang Jiale sneered. "Well, at least Old Lin is happy."

"Thank you. I am," Lin Jingyan answered pleasantly.

Zhang Jiale coughed.

"What are those? You guys are buying take-out? Isn't there room service?" Yu Tian said when he saw the containers in Han Wenqing and Lin Jingyan's hands.

"Not take-out," Zhang Xinjie said simply.

"I was just thinking which take-out place let you have those nice containers," Song Qiying said.

"Then, what is that?" Qin Muyun asked.

"Food. From the girls of Happy," Zhang Jiale said as he closed the door to their suite.

"Wha--?!" Bai Yanfei dropped his 3DS to the carpeted floor.

Lin Jingyan opened his' first because he remembered his girlfriend put a note in it and a tantalizing aroma immediately filled the room.

The rest straightened. "Is that- is that home-cooked?" Zheng Chengfeng stared in disbelief.

"Ye-jie did mention her sister's cooking," Zhang Xinjie said.

Lin Jingyan opened all three stacks of the containers to find the rice at the very bottom and a small folded note. He picked it up and unfolded it.

'Eat up and have a rest~ Can't call tonight :< but have an extra kiss' there was a lip mark at the end of the message and Lin Jingyan chuckled slightly. So that was why her lips were redder before he was going to leave?

"What is that?" Qin Muyun eyed the note in Lin Jingyan's hand.

"His girlfriend's note," Zhang Jiale said bitterly. "Old Han, open ours!" he urged to the captain instead.

Han Wenqing initially wanted to take a shower first before opening the containers but since Lin Jingyan opened his first and it smelled so amazing, he can only open the bigger container and decided to eat first.

"Woah!" Zhang Jiale happily kneeled down beside the table. "It is enough for three people portion, Ye Xiu's little sister sure is generous."

"Three? I think I can see four there," Zheng Chengfeng cleared his throat and said seriously.

"Piss off," Zhang Jiale extended his arms to protect his dinner.

Han Wenqing closed the lid back tightly. "Wash your hands first," he said to Zhang Jiale. "And the room service is going to be here on time. Don't waste food," Han Wenqing said to the others.

Zheng Chengfeng lazily collapsed back. "Argh, I'm jealous."

Despite the disastrous outcome of their first match, team Happy actually managed to show a comeback by defeating Hundred Blossoms 9 to 1 in their second match. However, it didn't stay for long as they fell before a mid-tier team in an away game.

In the match against Tyranny, they once again received a bad result that would warrant criticism from the critics again without a doubt.

Who cares? Not Ye Xiu, certainly. It was too boring to be too serious at the start of the season, they could grow along the way, there was no hurry to do it *now*.

Her teammates were growing and she wouldn't be unreasonable and stunted their growth instead.

Ye Xiu noticed people approaching from the corner of her eyes and turned to see team Tyranny. She put on a leisure smile to greet her friends and their team.

The reporters still lurking around to gather their materials also noticed this and slowly creeped to watch.

Everyone froze in disbelief when they spotted Han Wenqing was carrying a stacked food container and gave it to Ye Xiu.

"Thank you," Han Wenqing said as he held up the stacked containers to Ye Xiu who received it naturally.

"You're welcome. Was it good?" Ye Xiu asked. "It should be, my sister made it after all," as if not wanting to hear any negativity, Ye Xiu was fast to assert her own opinion.

Han Wenqing nodded, not offended nor miffed. "It was good."

"I really love the tomato and potato soup," Zhang Jiale commented. "I've never tasted something like that before. And the croquette? Amazing. Even Old Han who doesn't like deep-friend things finished them off."

"The chicken tender is also good, I love the sauce," Lin Jingyan expressed.

"Did you make the yogurt also?" Zhang Xinjie tilted his head.

"Yes, Yifan made them and stored them in the freezer," Ye Qiu said.

- "It was really good."
- "Thank you, senior," Qiao Yifan smiled brightly.
- "What? Did you think we will just give you instant noodle and be done with it?" Ye Xiu arched her brows at Han Wenqing playfully.
- "I was thinking so, but then again it was your sister who packed it."
- Ye Xiu snorted. "You think my sister is not capable to shamelessly put an instant noodle in here?"
- "Well, she's proven to be trustworthy enough to put something that express sincerity," Han Wenqing commented.
- "Are you guys sure you haven't dated before?" Ye Qiu asked doubtfully.
- "Xiu-jie just really likes teasing people left and right," Su Mucheng said as she hooked her arm with Ye Qiu's and leaned over. "That will be the death of her, I swear."
- "We're just friends, right Old Han?" Ye Xiu turned to Han Wenqing with a smirk.
- "You like the chicken tender? How about I learn how to make it for you?" Fang Rui spoke softly to Lin Jingyan, using the momentum of taking back the smaller container from Lin Jingyan's hands to stand *very* close to him.
- "You don't have to, just focus on your training," Lin Jingyan patted her head.
- "It won't disturb my training. How's it? But how do I make it and let you eat it if we're living so far away from each other now?" Fang Rui sighed dramatically.
- "End me now," Wei Chen said expressionlessly to Chen Guo who sweatdropped.
- "Is it already cleaned?" Ye Xiu opened the top lid.
- "Not thoroughly. We rinsed it with water, but there's no dish soap at the hotel," Zhang Xinjie said.
- "That's fine. Do you guys enjoy it? You're welcome to stop by and eat with us," Ye Xiu said.
- "Really?" Zheng Chengfeng blinked hopefully.
- "We're returning immediately after this," Han Wenqing cut them off.
- "Alright, then. I won't stop you," Ye Xiu nodded. "Have a safe trip."
- The two teams parted naturally, not aware of the people who watched their exchange and how their jaws had yet to be picked up off the ground.

Chapter End Notes

Idk why, but LinFang turned to be really sweet and generous in giving dog-food.

This chapter initially is the other half of the prev chapter before the wordcount exceeded the limit I've put for this fic and I decided to split them into two different chapters. That's why the fast update.

Chapter 7

Chapter Summary

Ye Xiu shook her head and looked back to see her sister sitting on a suitcase and being pushed around happily by Steamed Bun. "Xiaoqiu, use your long legs to walk, stop making Bun works extra."

"It's fine, let her have her fun. Bun also looks like having fun," Su Mucheng came to Ye Qiu's defense.

"Mucheng, stop mothering her, that's my job as her sister. Xiaoqiu, get down now."

Chapter Notes

This have been sitting for months and I finally finished it today. Enjoy, I guess.

See the end of the chapter for more <u>notes</u>

[Breaking News! Tyranny and Happy are getting chummy behind the scene?!?!]

[Han Wenging is sighted returning a food box to Ye Xiu?!]

[Delving further into the meaning of 'Food Box' Glory Exclusive]

[Expressing one's feelings through food box? Here's how to make an impressive food box for your love ones!]

[HANYE IS REAL?!?!?!]

[*Deceptively close photo of Ye Xiu and Han Wenging looking into each other's eyes*]

[*Lin Jingyan and Fang Rui within the frame and creating a contrast with Han Wenging and Ye Xiu with the caption 'new couple?'*]

[Local pro players might be married to each other?! More on Page 2]

Han Ye 4Ever: In hindsight, this is completely within expectation. The fanbases can fight all they want, but we all know when a man and a woman have such a tense relationship it can evolve into romance.

Late to the Tea: My God, Enemies to Lovers trope in real life!

Love Denied: I DID NOT SEE THIS COMING!

Goddess Ye's Long Legs: Can someone tell me this isn't true, come on this isn't true, right?!

Poison Doctor: Calling it, they're secretly married. Because goddess Ye giving god Han a food box like that?? Like??? What???

Spirited Days: "Hubby, now I already left Excellent Era, our love doesn't have any more blockade!" "Ye Xiu, I'm sorry I haven't been there for you..." (Read more in the link in my bio)

I Can't Anymore: Look at Su Mucheng's face in some of the pictures, she knew.

Li Xuan V: Holy crap, this is entertaining. @Ye Xiu V Jie, you're making lunch boxes now?

Tyrannical Romance: It's obvious god Han and goddess Ye have some kind of tension. This is why I've been advocating peace and marriage alliance, lol.

Leavey Leaf: Impossible.

Striving for Excellence: No way, they're archnemesis!

Love Mocked: Imao. A small part of Tyranny's fanbase had been supportive of this ship. Excellent Era's fanbase is crying right now, lol. Their goddesses are transferring out and now they're relegated. :p

Truth Shall Prevail: Can anyone confirm the story behind this? I'm really curious.

Desert Dust Can Punch Me: I've been saying this before. Should have taken Ye Xiu into our camp. We could have gotten two beauties and my ships could have sailed. #HanYe #ZhangXinjiexSuMucheng

Clean Not: If HanYe is really real, Tyranny can be a sister club to Happy! After all, Lin Jingyan and Fang Rui are already lovers, if the captains are lovers too, our ties are unmatched!

Tyrannical General: Never thought I'll do this in this account but, lmao. TyrannyXHappy #GO

Righteous Ruler: F*ck, I've been married to my wife for a year and never once she make me a food box, I'm so jealous! Why are they acting like a newlywed when real newlyweds are not even this chummy?!

For Real Tho: If you support this ship, then let me drop this really old art I did for One Autumn Leaf X Desert Dust. I'll make the players' version later.

Make You Fall: ^Good brother/sister, that's hot!

Ambitious Elephant: Does this mean Happy Guild and Tyrannical Ambition should be allied now to support our captains' harmonious relationship?

Happy Stars: ^You know what, I'll take you guys on that one.

I don't feel so good: Hang on! What's the real story behind this! Tell me FIRST!!!

Chu Yunxiu V: Wow. Wow. The scoop is straight up a flame. Careful, guys. You won't like it if Han Wenqing finds you and glares at you.

Li Xun V: Can't say anything about this gossip. Both are my seniors and pioneer seniors at that :x

Zhou Zekai V: Gossip.

Wang Jiexi V: People are really bored these days to make things up now, huh?

Song Xiao V: Did I just see Zhou Zekai straight up saying it's gossip? Wow, this piece of news is really bizarre to even make him comment brazenly like that.

You're Tearing Me Apart Lisa: Pro players circle is getting hotter it seems. I love it. Hopefully we'll get more dating scandal by the end of the year.

Troubling Rain: Food box

Troubling Rain: Need to know

Troubling Rain: @Lord Grim @Dancing Rain

Sobbing Ghost: My God! What's wrong, Huang Shoatian?! You're being really CURT today?!

Peaceful Hermit: The prophecy is prevailing. The Sword Saint is running out words!

Windy Rain: *Gasp*

Ghost Firefly: What's next?! Zhou Zekai starts talking in paragraph?!

Boundless Sea: ^ I would run for the nearest hill if that happens. Ngl

Troubling Rain: @Boundless Sea FANG RUI!

Troubling Rain: YE-JIE GIVES FOOD BOX TO OLD HAN?!?!?! WTF HAPPENED?!

Troubling Rain: Is that true?!

Boundless Sea: Well, we did give them food. I even packed Old Lin's food box <3:* @Dark

Thunder

Dark Thunder: ^///^

Dazzling Hundred Blossoms: Stop it! Dog food is not allowed in general groupchat!

Troubling Rain: (a) Lord Grim So if it's me, you skimped and only bought me the cheapest ramen that is, but you go an extra mile and even packed a food box for Old Han. This is bias! You're unfair! How could you?! You hurt my pride like this-fuck!

Windy Rain: *popcorns*

Immovable Rock: To be fair, it's not personal individually. If you observe the size of the food box, you can actually see that it's impossible only for one person.

Swoksaar: You mean, it's for multiple people from Tyranny?

Immovable Rock: Yes.

Carving Ghost: What warrants it tho? It can't be Happy's girls just decided to send food box to Tyranny's guys?

Rota: ^ I wish. The only people who got to eat were Senior Lin, Captain, vice-captain, and Senior Zhang

Carving Ghost: Oh? That's interesting.

Cloud Piercer: Why?

Dark Thunder: It's nothing special, really. We visited the girls and they needed some help lifting heavy furniture.

Boundless Sea: And as gentlemen they are, ofc they helped. We thanked them by packing them some food! ^_ But it's indeed very ambiguous in the pictures by paparazzi

Windy Rain: Oh, showing them some love with home cooking, huh? *smirks*

Boundless Sea: ;) Qiu-xiaojie was cooking that day, a chance to show how fancy we could be :p

Dark Thunder: So it's not an everyday thing?

Boundless Sea: Duh. I can only cook omelettes, to fu soup, and instant noodles. The last time I tried to be fancy by cooking fried rice, it turned really bland that Wei-jie complained that the rice should be doused with seawater to gain any sort of taste.

Troubling Rain: Wei-jie cooks there?

Boundless Sea: She makes mean ramen noodles from scratch.

Troubling Rain: Hell yea.

Swoksaar: Must be a fun bonding time. ^_^

Boundless Sea: Oh, very. *Smirks*

Troubling Rain: So, Old Han and the others got the food box because of helping around the

house, right?

Dancing Rain: Yes. It's a funny misunderstanding though. Hahaha

Windy Rain: Have you seen the marriage theory? Hilarious. It's even more bizarre than that

one time some people theorized that Shiqin and I were dating.

Life Extinguisher: Don't remind me of that.

Vaccaria: It's just a misunderstanding?

Lord Grim: What do you think it was?

Troubling Rain: Sis Ye!

Troubling Rain: I've been trying to DM you but you blocked me!

Lord Grim: Duh. I blocked everyone, you're all so noisy, especially you.

Troubling Rain: Well, I just wanted to ask about the pictures trending on Weibo, ya know! Complaining! You only ever treated me to ramen and you treated others with home cooking, that's unfair! They helped around your new base, but what about me? That impossible record in Bone Yard in tenth server is also because of ME.

Lord Grim: You're so petty I'm speechless.

Troubling Rain: Dealing with you, I have to be petty or you'll mistreat me.

Lord Grim: What are you? My daughter-in-law?

Dazzling Hundred Blossoms: LMAO!!!

Troubling Rain: You're daughter-in-law! Your whole family is daughter-in-law!

Vaccaria: Huang Shaotian's certainly harder to handle than a daughter-in-law.

Sobbing Ghost: You have all my sympathy @Swoksaar

Troubling Rain: Fuck off, Wang Jiexi. Fuck off, Li Xuan. Fuck you all, go to hell. Wanna PK? Let's duel, you fuckers!

Boundless Sea: Oh, here's the picture of Tyranny's visit. If you guys wanna see:3 [Pic] [pic]

[pic]

Windy Rain: It's all your pictures with your boyfriend.

Boundless Sea: You can see the background, no?

Receding Tides: Where's the admin? Someone, mute Fang Rui for a bit.

Boundless Sea: Song Xiao, this is why you never have a girlfriend.

Receding Tides: ?!?!?!?!?!

Lord Grim: But it is hilarious. I didn't expect such a simple thing to get blown out of

proportion.

Vaccaria: Should be more careful around those paparazzis.

Lord Grim: Can never be too careful, indeed. **@Desert Dust** What do you think? Apparently,

we're secretly married now according to a sizable portion of people.

Desert Dust: Ridiculous.

Lord Grim: Ikr? Where's the ring if we're already married?

Windy Rain: OOOOHHHHH!!! :DDDDDD

Sobbing Ghost: :O

Screen Killer: Hot damn :o

Receding Tides: Huang Shao's mouth is foaming rn.

Boundless Sea: Teasing is on point as always ;p

Desert Dust: (a)Lord Grim Scram.

Lord Grim: Gladly ^v^

Han Wenqing V: We're not dating. Mind your own business.

• I Admit Defeat: Nooooo! Why nottt????

• I Can't Anymore: That's too bad, you guys actually look good together.

• Go Excellent Era: Heh, as expected. Beauty and the Beast just can't exist in real life.

- My Life Is A Mistake: Stfu, Excellent Era's dogs. Go back and watch relegated teams' matches. Lmao. How does it feel to lose two goddesses due to shitty management?
- Verses of Love: Speak nicely. Han Wenging looks more handsome than you.
- **Tyrannical General:** Excellent Era's dogs alert! Report this, everyone. Dogs shouldn't bark here.
- **Sovereign Of Love:** But I just calculate your eight numbers and you guys are compatible!
- Bloody Sword: god Han, you might not be dating now. But what about in the future.
- **Desert's Eagle:** But what about that romantic exchange of returning-food-container-after-a long-day-of-work thing?!
- Care For A Seat: Happy's girls are trying to chase clout, aren't they? Hmph.
- One Hundred Fight: Got it, god Han. I'll fix these bastards' unruly asses.

Ye Xiu V: We just treated some fine gentlemen in Tyranny some food, how are we suddenly dating? I wonder what you guys will say if I'm actually a man, that Han Wenqing is gay? Hahaha.

- Wang Jiexi V: You can just clarify without picking on someone. You know that's an option too, right?
- Song Xiao V: Is this indirectly saying that Senior Han could possibly be gay or pointing out the irony of how easy to get into a scandal as a woman? Somehow, I can't decide which.
- Yu Wenzhou V: The laughter keeps this from sending a direct message.

• Su Mucheng V: You should have kept the 'hahaha' to yourself, sis.
• Zhang Xinjie V: You should be more prude in addressing the public and not pick on someone while at it.
• Zhou Zekai V: (y)
• Cute Orange: goddess Ye, I'm really worried about you. It's good that you're a girl, if you're a man, you're probably already got choked by Han Wenqing.
• Roasted Crab: It's true, though. People are jumping the wagon because a beauty interacts with a hero. What if it's a hero and a hero?
• Chu Yunxiu V: To be fair, no man has any reason to pack a food box for another man except if they're dating. So yeah, If you're a man, I'll still think you're in a relationship had I not known you two behind the scene.
• Li Xuan V: I agree with @Chu Yunxiu V. That sounds kinda gay. I will absolutely think you're gay.
• Child Ghost: If Li Xuan said he thinks someone is gay, I'll take his words on it. After all, he got Sis Wu Yuce at home.
• Let Me Go: This whole thread is a ride, I'm digging it.
• Fang Rui V: The teasing is still on point. Careful tho, Jie-jie. A man will prove he's not gay if you doubt his orientation. When that happens, I'll be there, eating popcorns.

• **Huang Shaotian V:** For an abrupt reason, I actually feel pity for Old Han. I suddenly miss the days when you were just a ghost and never actually post anything in this

Han Wenqing stared at Ye Xiu's statement in Weibo before rolling his eyes. Even after years, the first female god never changed, she only got worse, but Han Wenqing was no longer a teenager easily flustered or frustrated by her teasing and provocation.

But things became harder as everyone in Tyranny avoided looking at Han Wenqing altogether the moment they read the Weibo post. It was as if Han Wenqing was an unreasonable guy who would punish everyone just because someone provoked him, he was pretty sure he had been keeping perfect control of his work life and normal life.

In his mind, he can hear Ye Xiu's laughter. 'It's your face, Old Han. As long as you scrunch up that face, it doesn't matter if you're work-angry or normal-angry, it's still scary.'

Han Wenqing shook his head and sighed. Even when she wasn't here, her insult still somehow found its way to Han Wenqing again.

"What should I do with that woman?" Han Wenging grumbled.

"Old Han, don't be hasty!" Zhang Jiale quickly said, suddenly flashing over out of nowhere to pat Han Wenqing's back. "I'm sure Sis Ye didn't actually think you're gay! It's just a rhetoric! Right, Old Lin?"

Lin Jingyan slapped his forehead so hard it can be heard in the entire building. 'Why did you say that out loud, Jiale?!'

All staff of Tyranny sweated thrice more that day than usual.

Song Qiying played around with his phone at night, his entire body was fresh and smelled nice from shower and he had dried his hair with a hairdryer.

As vice-captain said, disciplined life would lead you to the right destination. Hair had to be dried after you came out of the shower so as to minimize the chance of getting cold.

On the contrary, Qin Muyun's hair was still slightly damp and only draped with a small towel. Seeing his roommate fixated on his phone, he grew curious. "What are you doing?"

"Just groupchat," Song Qiying answered curtly.

Qin Muyun moved to his bed, their shared room was quite big, mainly because they should have their own room as pro players in Tyranny but the other rooms were currently under renovations and would take a few more months to be worthy to live in. "Is there anything interesting?" Qin Muyun asked.

"Mm, it's Season Ten's Rookie Chat," Song Qiying answered honestly.

Qin Muyun paused and looked back at his junior who was typing something on his phone. "There should be a lot there now, right?" He probed.

"Yes." Song Qiying nodded. "It's never quiet."

"Should I pity you?" Qin Muyun chuckled jokingly.

"Not really," Song Qiying still didn't look at Qin Muyun. "Bun-jie just shared her dance routine and An Wenyi is telling everyone off about requesting for more."

"Bun...jie?"

"She's older than me." Song Qiying finally glanced at Qin Muyun. "It makes sense to call her jie-jie, right?"

Qin Muyun can't say anything to that. "Thinking about it again, most of them are older than you."

"Correct."

Qin Muyun finally couldn't hold back his curiosity and went to peer over Song Qiying's shoulder. He was caught by surprise at how fast the groupchat was going, everyone seemed excited and lively.

"Don't be a spoilsport, Brother An. Some of us are aspiring dancers as well!"

"Bun-jie! Bun-jie! Again!"

"Sister Luo Ji, I heard you're smart with math, can I ask you to tutor me sometime?:)"

"I watched Happy's livestream in summer, I saw Ye-xiaojie is struggling with learning from the bottom. I'm willing to be her practice partner anytime. **@Paulownia Autumn Leaf**"

"Sister Tang, if you're in X City, feel free to ask me if you want to look around. If you're bringing all your girl friends with you, it's fine too!"

Song Qiying also typed down.

 $"I would love to exchange notes sometimes with anyone from {\it Happy}."$

Qin Muyun gazed at Song Qiying's serious and sincere face and knew his friend was completely serious without any underhanded intention, however, he couldn't help but think Song Qiying was very despicable to be able to share a chatroom with all of Happy's rookies.

"If there's anything I regret right now is not having a new rookie this season," Song Xiao said seriously as he watched all the senior staff of Blue Rain framing the newest picture they have of their precious lady captain wearing Sailor Moon cosplay.

The size of the frame was no joke, the length was at least one and a half-meter long and the width was one meter. Their argument was so they could feel more blessed. The picture being framed was *big* and gorgeous. It was of a brief wink Wei Chen gave to the camera that caused half of Tyranny's stadium to cry out while holding their chests (With two serious casualties from Blue Rain's staff members in the audience). The resolution was really good, as expected of the Alliance's camera. Fang Shijing and all the staff pitched together to bribe the backstage manager to get the best resolution.

Xu Jingxi sniffed as he watched the workers rose the framed picture to be put on the wall. "Me too," he responded to Song Xiao's statement. "Damn, all those beautiful rookies lumped into Season 10. This year's rookies are fucking lucky."

"Indeed, brother." Zheng Xuan felt bitter too. The only womanly presence in this dry team was the first captain who had retired and returned with another team, they were quite desperate to see a new face of a woman.

"Thinking about it again, that's quite true." Fang Shijing turned around to look at them. "Why don't we have a rookie for this season too?"

"The new baby boy debuted in Season 9 and we have no urgency to debut another player this year," Huang Shaotian reasoned.

"Missed opportunity, really." Fang Shijing shook his head in disappointment. "Why don't you look at the camp and take in the best one as a sub?"

"Our bench is currently full too, captain Fang," Yu Wenzhou entered and stated apologetically.

"That's too bad. Little Yu, come, look at the thing me and the old things bring back, it's good, right?" Fang Shijing said proudly.

Yu Wenzhou looked up to see the clearest picture he'd ever seen of his lady captain. The picture was only taken from her waist up, her hands were raised behind her neck, the wink was a complete and welcomed bonus. He nodded and complimented. "Very beautiful."

"I know right?" Fang Shijing sighed. "This reminds me of the old time, back when this place isn't this dry."

His statement choked Blue Rain's current members.

"Indeed," Huang Shaotian said seriously with a face that said 'I have experience'.

The two angered the rest but they were helpless to do anything. One was a former captain and the other was the current vice-captain, they truly had no power in front of these people!

"I have questions," Lu Hanwen turned to the others after he appreciated the large photo of the lady captain. "If lady captain is the original owner of Swoksaar, was Swoksaar a woman?"

His question halted everyone else from appreciating the image set on the wall.

"No," Huang Shaotian answered. "Swoksaar had always been a man." As the one who had met Swoksaar even before Blue Rain was formed, Huang Shaotian was very sure of it.

"Err, it's a bit more complicated than that," Fang Shijing said.

"...???" Everyone looked at Fang Shijing in confusion.

Fang Shijing sighed. "Swoksaar was initially a very busty and gorgeous lady Warlock." "111?"

Everyone's jaws dropped at the revelation.

"Is that why Swoksaar is absurdly pretty for a male?!" Song Xiao gasped.

"What?! Impossible! I met Swoksaar in the first server he's always been a man!"

"Well, you see," Fang Shijing sighed in disappointment. "When we played Glory at the beginning, Wei Chen seemed to not have a standard device with a mic, so she usually only used speech bubbles to communicate. Because of how dirty her language is, most of the first server was convinced that she was a guy in real life. Then, there was an event started at the start of the third month of Glory's lauch..."

Fang Shijing found a place to sit down and shook his head in regret as he recalled the olden times. "In that event, there's a reward of an old item that could change your character's gender in case you feel regret of making a character that's not the same as you. It was a rare item, only two appeared in this event."

"Wait, I think I remember this event," Huang Shaotian said, narrowing his eyes.

"The winner who won this gender-change potion at the time the event ended made a dare to Wei Chen to change the gender of Swoksaar and Wei Chen would get an Orange Cloak and Orange Staff of high-level. Wei Chen accepted readily the dare and... that's how the current Swoksaar came to be." Fang Shijing looked back at the large photo on the wall bitterly. "Do you know who dared the madam that?"

"Who?" Yu Wenzhou asked, curious.

"One Autumn Leaf," Fang Shijing's lips twitched. "That Ye Xiu. That damn Ye Xiu took away the gorgeous warlock that people can oggle while playing. At that time, her partner argued a lot with Wei Chen, he was convinced that Swoksaar is a guy while Wei Chen insisted she was a girl. One Autumn Leaf got tired of the argument and dared Swoksaar to drink the potion to end the argument."

...,

" "

"The lore is wild," Song Xiao wiped a bead of sweat running down his temple. The Old Glory was truly ridiculous.

Huang Shaotian facepalmed.

"And then, after that, madam Wei got a mic on her own and started using voice to chat with others, proving that she's a woman. It should be around this time you met her, Shaotian," Fang Shijing smiled. "But, hahaha, most didn't care that she's a girl because her mouth is really dirty. When she announced that she'll play professionally, everyone was entirely convinced that she's a wild girl gamer."

He shook his head. "Then, we met her in real life and every jaws dropped to the floor," he sighed dreamily. "Then, she and Ye Xiu split the early Alliance into two sides with their beauty. Sigh... to be young again."

Everyone smiled bitterly as the former captain began to reminisce.

"You know this raises a question indeed, did Sister Ye play a guy since the start?" Xu Jingxi joked.

"Oh, she didn't," This time, it was Huang Shaotian who answered without missing a beat. "You didn't know?"

" ???"

"No?" Xu Jingxi blinked bewilderedly.

"Sis Ye's One Autumn Leaf was a female for the majority of time before the Alliance," Huang Shaotian said. "I met her many times before. She then changed One Autumn Leaf to be a man when the announcement about Glory's professional league happened. I don't know why tho." Huang Shaotian shrugged.

"Hang on, how did I never know about this???" Song Xiao demanded.

"That was an old story, though?"

"How is this never mentioned anywhere then???!!!"

"Hey, you remember that time I fought with Autumn Tree about my real-life's gender?" Wei Chen nudged Ye Xiu.

Ye Xiu blinked and nodded. "Yeah. Su Muqiu was really insistent that you were a man at first, and wouldn't shut up about it."

Wei Chen turned to Su Mucheng. "That brother of yours was so ridiculous and even fought me, a girl, about the loot splitting numerous times."

"In his defense," Ye Xiu started. "You started flirting with me every time we met."

"Well, you're the worst headache ever and I want to disgust you by calling you 'big beauty', how could that be called flirting?"

"Men, they're always jealous," Ye Xiu said. "He was so jealous about you, really."

"What? Hahaha, what kind of loser getting jealous over someone flirting online?"

"My brother, apparently," Su Mucheng said lightly. "I think he was just frustrated that Swoksaar could throw a lot of lines to his girl yet he couldn't even utter a single real romantic line in real life towards his own girlfriend."

Ye Xiu's lips quirked up at that. "He was such a dork."

"What did he say after I use voice chat a week after that?" Wei Chen grew curious.

"He didn't say anything and avoided the obvious topic, never admitting his mistake" Ye Xiu shook her head. "Even though I gave away my win so he can win an argument, tsk." At that time, Ye Xiu truly felt fed up with Su Muqiu's prattles on how shameless Swoksaar was for using a female avatar that she just had to make Swoksaar a man so Su Muqiu could shut up.

"Truly shameless," Wei Chen took a drag of her cigarette. "Then, at that time before the league started accepting applicants. Why did you change One Autumn Leaf from a valiant female general to a male one?"

Ye Xiu smiled. "Dancing Rain used to belong to Su Muqiu, he wanted to use a female character to debut, so I just thought, why not make One Autumn Leaf male? So I took the potion Su Muqiu won and kept. Though, in the end, he couldn't debut with a female character..."

Wei Chen sighed in regret at the old friend she never got to meet in real life. "Too bad indeed." She then looked over. "But, that situation made the only two female captains in the first season both play male characters instead."

Ye Xiu nodded. "Yes."

"Both Swoksaar and One Autumn Leaf became male because of you," Wei Chen pointed out.

"..." Ye Xiu couldn't deny that.

"Stop texting with your boyfriend and move on," Ye Xiu scolded Fang Rui who got busy with her phone.

Fang Rui pouted. "My boyfriend is busy training. I'm actually doing something else."

"Useless thing for sure," Wei Chen said.

"I'm trying to start a Livestream, excuse you."

"Damn! Can it wait when I actually look decent?"

"Ehhh? There's a charm in a mess, you know? Fans will love that kind of relatability."

"Don't record WeiWei, that's too dangerous," Chen Guo interfered. "Too much for public consumption."

"You're speaking as if I'm walking outside the airport naked!" Wei Chen said incredulously and many people looked over, staring at them. "What? Never seen a beautiful woman before?!" Wei Chen shot and they all scurried off.

Ye Xiu shook her head and looked back to see her sister sitting on a suitcase and being pushed around happily by Steamed Bun. "Xiaoqiu, use your long legs to walk, stop making Bun works extra."

"It's fine, let her have her fun. Bun also looks like having fun," Su Mucheng came to Ye Qiu's defense.

"Mucheng, stop mothering her, that's my job as her sister. Xiaoqiu, get down now."

"Don't want."

" "

"Hahahaha, Xiaojie is throwing tantrum." Fang Rui laughed.

"Why?" Ye Xiu asked calmly.

"I've vowed when I boarded the plane to H City months ago that I would never set my foot in B City ever again. I'm keeping that vow." Ye Qiu pouted.

"..." Ye Xiu was speechless.

"Damn, she's learning how to be shameless so quickly. Ye Xiu, you're a damn good teacher," Wei Chen praised generously and gave Ye Qiu a bar of low-fat chocolate bar as a reward.

"You can't possibly keep your feet off of the ground for that long, Ye Qiu." Ye Xiu's eyes twitched. "Come on, if your legs are still sleeping, just lean on me." She knew her sister well, it was her fourth flight in business class and she still couldn't cope with the lack of room for her legs to stretch out. A rich young miss' problem, indeed.

"Aww," Su Mucheng crooned.

"That's so sweet," Tang Rou said with a teasing smile.

"Here, let me take care of the luggage," An Wenyi sighed. "We need to leave quickly, you guys are attracting too much attention."

"Someone should tell those people that staring costs twenty yuan," Wei Chen said lazily.

"You know, maybe we should invest in bodyguards," Chen Guo said and bit her lips when Ye Xiu groaned. "I mean, most of us are girls, only Wenyi is a man. It's not safe to travel here and there."

"Our budget is already thin as it is, boss. Don't get any funny ideas. Besides, we have Bun, she's as strong as an adult male," Ye Xiu said.

"How could you know that?" Chen Guo demanded unhappily.

"Little An, go wrestle with Bun." Ye Xiu nudged the only man.

An Wenyi nearly choked and shook his head rapidly when he saw Steamed Bun stopped pushing Ye Qiu on the roller luggage and started to crack her fingers with a grin. "Stop that. Can we keep all this nonsense until we arrive at the hotel?"

Chen Guo shook her head, not persuaded. "We should hire one or two guys, just some people we know personally. Maybe get the guys from the guild to also come with us?"

"No, what about my wild bosses?" Ye Xiu said possessively. "We should keep guild and professional team's matters separated."

"I know the easy way out of this," Fang Rui said. "One of you should get a boyfriend to bring everywhere. I already have one but he's also a pro player so I'm out. How about it?"

"No," Ye Qiu said bluntly.

"Pass," Su Mucheng said.

"Um, I still want to focus on being a better pro player." Qiao Yifan shook her head bashfully.

"Dating distracts people from the real goal," Luo Ji said sharply.

"I bring my own luggage," Tang Rou said expressionlessly.

"Hmm," Steamed Bun seemed intrigued but one look at her face told everyone she was probably clueless about dating.

"No," Mo Fan put her own answer without much change of expression.

"That's not a way to solve a problem," Chen Guo murmured.

"Since no one wants a boyfriend currently and you're the only one who has one, why don't you persuade your boyfriend instead? We can have a winter transfer as long as he's not too expensive," Ye Xiu said expressionlessly and Fang Rui giggled.

"Oh, you!" Fang Rui grinned. "Since Wei-jie is allergic to romance, that leaves only one person left..." She glanced at An Wenyi.

An Wenyi inhaled deeply. "I don't like men."

"I haven't said anything."

"You've said enough."

"Aww. Never change, Wenyi, never change."

"I can ask some of my lackeys in my hometown to come if they're getting paid," Wei Chen said. "They're trustworthy."

Chen Guo thought deeply about it and Ye Xiu sighed.

"We're thin on budget, remember that."

They found their bus and boarded it to leave for the hotel. On the way, they all talked a lot about many topics and even already planned out a shopping trip to one of the malls after they were done with their match.

Fang Rui got to share the room with Wei Chen after the older woman traded place with Su Mucheng, since An Wenyi was the only man, the room distribution was a bit skewed so one of the rooms had to be shared by three girls. They were used to trade rooms, Su Mucheng was Fang Rui's default roommate. So far, the twins never got separated so it was just a question of who would sleep in the same room as them. This time, it seemed like Su Mucheng volunteered to trade places with Wei Chen.

"Don't gossip till late," Wei Chen told Su Mucheng seriously.

Su Mucheng snickered. "You are welcome to come if you feel bored, Wei-jie."

"No, thanks."

"That's right, we'll have our own fun gossip night in our room, right, Wei-jie?" Fang Rui blinked innocently.

"I want to sleep, you rascal."

Fang Rui bade good night to everyone and they all entered their own room. She stretched slightly, groaning.

"The idea of a bodyguard is brilliant, I'd say," Fang Rui mentioned to Wei Chen.

"Well, it never came up before because most professional teams are mainly men," Wei Chen said. "Never had to worry about safety when you're surrounded by men."

"Hoo," Fang Rui agreed. "But here in Happy, the Yin is covering the Yang." She peered at the older woman. "You're not worried, Wei-jie? Sometimes when I think about it when we're having away games like this, I feel a bit worried."

Wei Chen blinked. "What's there to be worried about? If this laoniang is so easy to get jumped at, I would have gotten jumped at countless times with how sexy I am!"

"What a confidence," Fang Rui deadpanned. "Will you protect me if something happens then?"

"Just run. That's my first and foremost strategy for most problems. You won't get jumped at if perverts can't get you."

Fang Rui laughed. "Running, huh? You're a pro at that," she smirked. "I seem to remember something about buying a soda...OW!" she paused when a pillow was hurled to her face.

"Keep being a smartass, shit, you really picked up after that shameless Fang," Wei Chen complained.

"What? I was just saying!" Fang Rui whined. "Didn't you also like to run away in a game's skirmishes even though you can certainly afford an alternate's death?"

Wei Chen rolled her eyes. "Shut up, you want to go to the bathroom first or I should go?"

"I'm going to text Old Lin first," Fang Rui said as she fished out her phone. She turned on her phone and looked at it. Her face paled. "Oh, fuck no."

Wei Chen, who was rummaging for her toothbrush and toiletries, looked up in confusion. "What? Old Lin breaks up with you through text or something?"

Fang Rui looked at Wei Chen in horror. "I started a livestream."

Wei Chen arched her brows. "So?"

"Since an hour and a half ago..." Fang Rui said softly.

"..." Wei Chen stared at her incredulously. "Fang Rui, you dumb bitch!" she cried out.

"Aaaaahhh!" Fang Rui tossed her phone away, having ended the Livestream but still feeling the cold sweat running down her back. "What did we talk about on the road?!"

"Fuck if I remember!" Wei Chen exclaimed back. "Shit, we never mentioned anything about the hotel's name or the room number, right?"

"No. Qiao Yifan did mention the room number but no one ever mentioned the hotel's name since it's too long," Fang Rui said confidently.

"You stupid lass!" Wei Chen hit her over the head, ignoring her painful cry. "Keep your phone in check!"

"I'm sorryyyyy!" Fang Rui hugged her pleadingly.

"Forget it, we should tell Ye Xiu and GuoGuo about this," Wei Chen said and got up. "They shouldn't be asleep yet."

Yu Wenzhou put the new screen recording into a separate file. Nothing betrayed anything on his face as he did all of this. His finger paused delicately for a bit before he duplicated the clip and carefully navigated through the app on his phone to crop the copy of the clip, he took the last chunk of minutes in the end and made it a separate recording.

He ran his hand through his half-damp hair before it fell on his stomach. He looked down at the bathrobe that he still wore even after being out of the shower for over an hour now.

Standing up, he pressed 'play' on the cropped recording and started taking off his bathrobe to don his pajama

"What's there to be worried about? If this laoniang is so easy to get jumped at, I would have gotten jumped at countless of times with how sexy I am!"

Yu Wenzhou stifled a smile as he went around to sit on his bed again, furtively glancing to the bed next to him where Lu Hanwen was sleeping peacefully.

The smile soon turned blank when he heard the damning line of truth.

"Running, huh? You're a pro at that. I seem to remember something about buying a soda...OW!"

Yu Wenzhou closed his eyes and sank in thought. "So great at running, hm..." Yu Wenzhou murmured to himself. "Are you going to run again this time..." he was lost in his musing.

'This time. I won't let you.' Yu Wenzhou thought determinedly.

Chapter End Notes

I have an idea about that bodyguard plan, serious. It's a beautiful plan.

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